

Ershad offers early elections

DHAKA (AP) — President Hussain Muhammad Ershad offered Saturday to hold early elections in a nationwide speech a day after he declared state of emergency to quell growing anti-government unrest. "My government has no objection to arrange a new election earlier than the schedule if we all unitedly agree to it," General Ershad said, speaking in Bengali over state-run radio and television. Gen. Ershad did not specify what the elections would be for, but broadly hinted that they would elect a new parliament. "If the people vote for a change of the government, I will not hesitate to happily hand over power to the victorious party," Gen. Ershad said. "If the people give a mandate for changing the form of government, (the opposition can) come and amend the constitution in the parliament." The offer came the day after Gen. Ershad imposed a state of emergency, deploying riot police and paramilitary forces throughout the capital as another anti-government strike loomed. (See page 8). Gen. Ershad also defended his decision to impose the state of emergency.

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Tunisian premier visits Morocco

IFRANE (AP) — Tunisia's new prime minister, Hedi Baccouche, arrived in this mountainous town Saturday to confer on North African problems, particularly on Morocco's conflict with Algeria over the Western Sahara. Mr. Baccouche flew directly from Tunis to Fez airport. He was received by Moroccan Prime Minister Azeddine Laraki, who accompanied him to the king's palace in the nearby Atlas mountains. Mr. Baccouche played a leading role in the Nov. 7 ouster of President Habib Bourguiba. He is the constitutionally designated successor to Tunisia's new leader, President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, and is widely regarded as the dominant personality of Mr. Ben Ali's government. On Wednesday, Mr. Baccouche flew to Algeria — his first trip abroad since the takeover — to confer with Algerian President Chadli Benjedid. A source at the Tunisian embassy in Rabat told AP both trips were in the framework of Tunisia's decision to give priority to its relations with its neighbours and to lend its good offices to efforts to resolve the Western Sahara conflict. (See page 2).

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King sends good wishes to Yugoslavia

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein sent a cable of good wishes on Saturday to Yugoslav President Lazar Mijovic congratulating him on the occasion of his country's Independence Day. In the cable, the King wished the Yugoslav leader continuing good health and the Yugoslav people further progress and prosperity.

Cabinet approves 88 draft budget

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet on Saturday approved the government's draft budget for 1988. During a session chaired by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, the Cabinet decided to send the draft to Parliament for approval. The Cabinet also approved an Arab agreement for trade arbitration.

Princess Basma attends Cairo meeting

CAIRO (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, chairwoman of the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund, attended the opening session on Saturday of the Arab Council for Childhood Development board of trustees. Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd bin Zaid attended the opening session. The council's president, Prince Talal bin Abdul Aziz, expressed hope that the council would reach decisions aimed at improving and raising the standard of services offered to Arab children everywhere. Among the topics to be discussed is the council's working plan for the next year. The council comprises 34 prominent Arab figures. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan is the honorary president of the council which was founded in Amman on April 12, 1987.

Aramco donates \$111,000 to W. Bank and Gaza

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Daudin received a cheque for \$111,000 on Saturday from representative of the Arab American Oil Company (Aramco) in Amman, Jamal Sarayreh, in contribution to the company to a number of charitable societies and institutions in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Lebanese guerrillas said to have Stingers

SHARJAH (R) — Pro-Iranian guerrillas in South Lebanon have obtained U.S.-made Stinger missiles from Afghan rebels, a newspaper reported on Saturday. Al Khaleej daily said the guerrillas purchased a number of the shoulder-fired, heat-seeking anti-aircraft missiles. "A Lebanese resistance group in South Lebanon used its ties with Iran to buy Stingers from the Afghan rebels," it quoted sources close to the guerrillas as saying.

Zambia rules out ties with Israel

RIYADH (R) — Zambian leader Kenneth Kaunda said his country would not recognise Israel. In an interview published on Saturday with the Saudi newspaper Okaz, he said there was no difference between Israel and the racist regime of South Africa. He said Zambia did not want relations with Israel as long as it refused to pull out of the occupied Arab territories.

Two Kuwaitis tried for subversion

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's state security court on Saturday adjourned verdicts on two youths being tried on charges of subversion. Abdul Aziz Abbas Al Shai, 18, and Haidar Abdullah Al Nakhai, 17, both Kuwaitis, were charged with membership of an illegal group seeking to overthrow the state by force and insulting the Emir in a public place by circulating subversive leaflets. Nakhai was still at large, the court was told. After hearing the charges, the court went into closed session and later adjourned verdicts until Dec. 5.

Senate voices total satisfaction with results of Amman summit and praises His Majesty

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Upper House of Parliament (Senate) on Saturday expressed appreciation, pride and support for His Majesty King Hussein's efforts at unifying Arab ranks and his role in making the Nov. 8-11 extraordinary Arab summit in Amman a resounding success.

In a cable they sent to King Hussein on Saturday, the senators said His Majesty's firm belief in the principles of the Great Arab Revolt was the basis for calling the summit to convene and for his follow-up efforts to achieve pan-Arab reconciliation and solidarity.

The cable was sent to the King immediately after the Senate met in its first ordinary session following the summit's conclusion less than three weeks ago. Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi sent a cable congratulating the King on the

results of the Amman summit on Nov. 13.

The cable was called for by the Senate members after they listened to 10 speeches by senators on the summit's results and resolutions. The speeches hailed the nationalistic and historic role played by King Hussein in the summit and congratulated the Arab leaders for making the conference a resounding success.

Senators also paid tribute for the efforts of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, who was head of Jordan's delegation to the

summit, and to Prime Minister Zaid Rifai.

"The results of the Arab summit of accord and harmony will remain a landmark in the march towards realising pan-Arab solidarity and joint work," said the Senate in its cable to the King.

General satisfaction, enthusiasm and jubilation among senators over the summit's success was evident in their speeches which covered wide-ranging topics related to the summit, including Jordan's pre-summit preparations. Arab unity achieved at the meeting and the firm resolutions adopted by the Arab leaders regarding the Iran-Iraq war and the situation in the Gulf, the Middle East problem, the situation in war-torn Lebanon and relations between Arab countries and Egypt.

The atmosphere of enthusiasm over the summit's outcome as displayed in Saturday's Senate

(Continued on page 3)

Tension remains high in Lebanon amid reports of Israeli build-up

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Tension remained high in South Lebanon for the third day on Saturday amid a full alert among Palestinian fighters, and civilians spent a second day in shelter in anticipation of Israeli retaliation for Wednesday's daring Palestinian commando attack that killed six Israeli soldiers and wounded seven others.

Reports reaching here from the south indicated that Israel could possibly launch a sweeping incursion into South Lebanese villages suspected of helping Palestinian and Lebanese fighters mounting resistance attacks against Israeli soldiers as well as the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA). The SLA and more than 1,000 regular Israeli soldiers patrol an area designated by Israel as a "security zone" in South Lebanon as a buffer against guerrilla attacks across the border.

Palestinian fighters kept a constant vigil over the skies with their anti-aircraft guns on the ready for possible Israeli air raids. Israeli jets flew several sorties over the area but beyond range of the guns on Friday and Saturday in what was seen

as reconnaissance missions. Syrian Television said over 2,000 Israeli soldiers backed by tanks and helicopter gunships were massed in the "security zone" preparing for a massive operation against resistance fighters in the area.

The television also read out what it said was a message sent to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad by the commando who mounted Wednesday's suicide attack on an Israeli military camp just across the Lebanese-Israeli border in a motorised hang-glider. The commando, whom the television identified as Mohammad Akar, said in the message, said to have been written before Wednesday, that he was going on the suicide mission with the firm belief that military struggle was the only means to liberate Palestine.

The Israeli prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir, blamed Syria for the raid.

In Damascus, the Syrian-backed Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC), led by Ahmad Jibril, claimed responsibility for the attack. It was the first in

which airborne guerrillas caused casualties in Israel.

Mr. Shamir, a right-winger, hinted that Israel might retaliate telling Israel Television's Arabic news on Friday night:

"Israel will address all attacks on her citizens, her soldiers and her territory."

A preliminary investigation by the Israeli army revealed that soldiers in the camp attacked had for 20 minutes ignored a military alert issued when the hang-glider was spotted flying towards the Israeli border.

The army found that the soldiers did not respond to the alert at all, unlike the surrounding towns and collective farms, which immediately threw up full defences and sent residents to underground shelters.

Chief of Staff General Dan Shomron said a soldier guarding the army camp outside the northern town of Kiryat Shmona ran away when the attacker threw a grenade at him.

Israeli newspapers reflected a widespread sense of shock that such an attack could take place despite its elaborate defences and heavily-patrolled "security zone"

Iraq reports heavy air raids on Iranian troop concentrations

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq said its military aircraft blasted Iranian troop positions and concentrations along the northern front Saturday, and threatened "mass extermination" of Iranian fighters if they launch a long-expected major offensive.

The Iraqi military command said in a communique that its warplanes flew 75 combat missions against Iranian "troop gatherings in the northern sector inflicting heavy losses on enemy men, equipment and weaponry."

Quoting an unnamed military spokesman, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said Iraqi helicopter gunships launched 36 strikes "on enemy troop gatherings, weaponry positions and vehicles in the northern sector."

The command did not give details of fighting in the northern mountainous region of the 1,180-kilometre-long front.

northern front around the resort of Hajji Omran and east of the city of Sulaimaniyah in the mountainous Kurdish-inhabited region.

An Iranian communique last Wednesday claimed Iranian forces had killed or wounded 4,000 Iraqis since Nov. 20. Iraq has said thousands of Iranians killed.

The northern front is active with dissidents on both sides. Kurdish guerrillas fighting the Baghdad government have joined Iranian forces in combat in the region.

Iraqi-backed Iranian guerrillas of the Mujahideen-e-Khalq dissident group reported last Tuesday their "most significant victory" this year. They claimed to have assaulted Iranian troop bases, killing or wounding more than 3,000 soldiers.

Iran's powerful parliament speaker called on countrymen Friday to prepare for a long war against Iraq, and a commander said three million fresh volunteers would be dispatched to the battlefronts.

Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani called on the people to volunteer in the military service to enable officials to plan future offensives in the war against Iraq, Tehran Radio reported.

Mr. Rafsanjani, clutching the muzzle of a rifle in a symbolic gesture to dramatise Iran's war footing, told worshippers during a Friday prayer sermon at Tehran University that the time has not come yet for mass mobilisation, and Iran can still rely on volunteers in fighting Iraq.

Similar statements were carried by the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA).

The commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps, Mohsen Rezaei, said three million men had already enrolled after a call to volunteer in the military.

The volunteers would be dispatched "periodically" to the battlefronts as of Dec. 5, Mr. Rezaei said. He told worshippers in a speech before the Friday prayer that the number of volunteers may shortly hit six million, the agency said.

Zia and Gorla receive messages from King

ISLAMABAD (Petra) — Pakistani President Zia Ul Haq on Saturday received a message from His Majesty King Hussein dealing with the positive outcome of the recent extraordinary Arab summit meeting held in Amman.

The message was delivered by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, who arrived in Pakistan for the mission on Friday evening on the first leg of a tour that will take him to other Asian countries on similar missions.

Mr. Masri also conveyed greetings from King Hussein to the Pakistani president, who paid tribute to the outcome of the Amman summit and voiced appreciation of King Hussein's efforts in closing Arab ranks.

The meeting was in the presence of Jordan's Ambassador to Pakistan Fakhri Abu Taleb.

In Rome, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem met on Friday evening with Italian Prime Minister Giovanni Gorla and Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti as well as Cardinal Casaroli, the Vatican's foreign minister.

Mr. Qasem conveyed to the Italian and Vatican leaders messages from King Hussein dealing with the outcome of the Amman summit.

Mr. Qasem, who has similar mission in Paris, Bonn and London, outlined King Hussein's continued efforts for closing Arab ranks and for serving the cause of peace in the Middle East.

Mr. Qasem also presented the Arab Nation's views with regard to the call for an international conference on the Middle East.

Syria said to have played key role in freeing French hostages

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Syria played a key role in freeing two French hostages from their pro-Palestinian kidnappers in West Beirut, but the deal could not have been completed without Iranian blessing, diplomatic sources said on Saturday.

Television crewman Jean-Louis Normandin, 35, and agency photographer Roger Augue, 31, were freed after dark on Friday at the seafaring Summerland hotel in west Beirut after captivity lasting 20 months and 10 months respectively.

Damascus said on Saturday that France had formally thanked it for its role when Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond telephoned his Syrian counterpart Farouq Al Sharaa.

The Syrian News Agency (SANA) said Mr. Raimond conveyed "the French government's thanks and gratitude for the efforts Syria has exerted to secure freedom for the two French hostages."

Reagan: U.S. to insist on strict INF verification

SANTA BARBARA, California (Agencies) — President Ronald Reagan said Saturday "we're insisting on" strict verification measures in the new U.S.-Soviet treaty to eliminate medium-range nuclear missiles.

"Make no mistake about it. The Soviets are and will continue to be our adversary," Mr. Reagan said in his weekly radio address.

But the president said the United States "must deal with the Soviets soberly" and from a position of strength.

For this reason, he said, the United States must take a tough stance on enforcing a nuclear-missile treaty.

"Since the Soviets have a record of violating past arms agreements, we're insisting on the most stringent verification regime in arms-control history," Mr. Reagan said. A high-ranking administration

King honours Rifai for his loyalty and dedicated service to Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein on Saturday conferred on Prime Minister Zaid Rifai the Al Nahda Medal of the Most Distinguished Order in recognition of "his loyalty and his devotion to serving Jordan and his keenness on safeguarding the national interests."

The King conveyed to Mr. Rifai his decision in a message in which he paid tribute to the prime minister who he said "worked day and night for the sake of fulfilling the Kingdom's higher aspirations and continuing the building process on the firmest foundations and in true compliance with the principles of the Great Arab Revolt and its objectives and goals which aim to serve the Arab Nation to which Jordan belongs."

Referring to the Nov. 8-11 extraordinary Arab summit meeting in Amman, King Hussein said: "God had bestowed on us His blessings and the Arab Nation honoured us by sending its leaders to meet in Amman to achieve agreement and consensus because they realised that we in Jordan have opted to place Arab



national interests above all other considerations in word and deed.

"The Arab Nation has discovered that we have no other objective and aim except to unify Arab ranks so that this nation can be stronger and forge ahead with greater determination and able to fulfil and serve the national interests of the coming generation," King Hussein said.

"We are pleased to honour you as our prime minister, trusted to



help crystallise our ambitions and aspirations, and capable to help Jordan become an exemplary state and a strong pillar in the Great Arab edifice," King Hussein said in his message to Mr. Rifai.

The King described Mr. Rifai as a dear life-long friend and a devoted companion along the march for construction and said that Mr. Rifai would continue to enjoy his absolute confidence, affection and appreciation.

New session of Euro-Arab dialogue opens today

AMMAN (J.T.) — A two-day session of Euro-Arab Dialogue opens today at the Plaza Hotel under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

The session is the third to be organised by the Arab Thought Forum (ATF) and is designed to discuss major regional issues, an ATF press release in Amman said Saturday.

The release said the meeting would be addressed by Prince Hassan, who heads the Arab side to the meeting, and the first session would be devoted to the Gulf conflict. It will be chaired by

Dr. Mohammad Hassan Al Zayyat, former Egyptian foreign minister.

The second session present a deep insight into the Gulf conflict, according to the press release.

The second day of the meeting, it said, will be devoted to Euro-Arab relations in the past and in the present and in which European and Arab intellectuals would be speaking.

This session will also focus on future prospects of relations between Europe and the Arab

World.

A total of 42 participants of whom 26 are Arab intellectuals from Jordan, Egypt, Kuwait, Lebanon, Iraq and Syria will take part. The 16 others come from France, Italy, Germany, Holland, the United Kingdom and Turkey, according to the press release. Among the Arab delegates will be Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, Dr. Khalil Al Salem, member of the Upper House of Parliament, and Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali, president of the University of Jordan.

Israel jails 6 Arab activists

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli military authorities have detained six Palestinians from the occupied West Bank on charges of hostility to the occupation, military sources said on Saturday.

They said the six, whose cases were unrelated, were arrested on Thursday under administrative procedures dating from British-mandated Palestine. They can be held for up to six months without trial.

Those detained were: — Sami Yousef, who was sentenced to 12 years in prison in 1982 for allegedly stabbing an Israeli soldier and released three years later in a prisoner exchange. He was accused of "continuing to promote the interests of terror organisations since his release."

— Salama Mousa Abdullah Khalifa, who was jailed for 16 months in 1984 on charges of recruiting Palestinians for the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP). He was charged with continuing "his hostile activity and incitement."

— Rajwan Yousef Hamid, detained on charges of active membership of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

— Mohammad Safi, charged with involvement in demonstrations including hurling stones at Israeli soldiers and settlers.

— Sami Mohammad Kilyani, accused of being a senior member of the DFLP.

— Adim Ali Jawad, accused of being an active member of the DFLP and involvement in "hostile activity."

In another development, the parents of two Palestinian students shot dead by Israeli soldiers a year ago have asked the high court to order a fresh investigation. Israel's Itim news agency reported.

Shelling kills 8 policemen in east Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — Eight policemen were killed and 15 wounded on Saturday by shells that slammed into their training academy on the mostly Christian side of Beirut's "green line" battle zone, police said.

The Voice of Lebanon radio said the shells that hit the Warwar police academy in a suburb south-east of Beirut were fired by tanks in the hills east of the capital.

The officers were training when fighting erupted and shells hit the academy, a police spokesman said.

The barrage followed fierce mortar and artillery battles on Saturday between rival militia-men on the green line, on eight-kilometre wasteland that has divided Beirut since 1975.

The police school lies near the battle zone.

U.N. committee condemns Iran's human rights abuses

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — A key U.N. committee has expressed grave concern over widespread reports of human-rights abuses, torture and mass executions in Iran.

It was the third consecutive year that the Committee on Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Affairs has expressed such concerns and urged Iran to respect human rights. The committee's resolution will be considered later by the U.N. General Assembly.

The committee adopted the measure by a vote of 58-22 with 42 abstentions. Last year's vote was 53-27 with 42 abstentions.

The vote was hailed by Iranian dissidents opposed to the government of the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and by the Bahai International Community whose members have been persecuted in Iran.

"The decisive condemnation of the Khomeini regime demonstrates that the world will not tolerate Khomeini's Hitler-like fascism," said Ali Safavi, press spokesman for the People's Mujahedeen of Iran in Washington.

"Throughout the international community, Khomeini's name is synonymous with repression, torture and belligerence," he said in a telephone statement.

The solution to both the Iran-Iraq war and murder in Iran, he said, is overthrow of the

religion and right of religious minorities to practice their religion.

It urged the government of Iran to respect human rights.

On Afghanistan, the U.N. committee expressed its "deep distress and continuing alarm" that a special U.N. representative who visited the country this summer reported continued violations of the right to life, liberty and security of person, as well as of the right to freedom of expression, assembly, movement and association.

The resolution was approved by a vote of 85 to 21 with 28 abstentions. The Soviet bloc and its supporters accounted for most of the negative votes. Afghanistan was absent.

Alluding to Soviet forces in Afghanistan since December 1979, the draft expressed deep concern that the Afghan authorities, "with heavy support from foreign troops," were acting with great severity against their opponents and suspected opponents in a manner contravening humanitarian law.

The draft also noted with great concern widespread human rights violations that had already caused millions of people to flee their homes and country, continued to cause large flows of refugees and displaced persons.

Qadhafi: No peace until aid to Chad is stopped

PARIS (R) — Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qadhafi has warned there could be no lasting peace in Chad until France and the United States stopped aiding the central African country.

Col. Qadhafi, speaking in a live television interview from Tripoli, denied reports that his troops were preparing a new offensive against the Chadian government of President Hissene Habre.

Chad, which earlier this year ended Libyan occupation of its northern desert region, said on Tuesday it had clashed with Libyan forces trying to re-enter Chadian territory from Sudan.

It was the first reported skirmish since Chad and Libya agreed to a ceasefire on Sept. 11 and followed Chadian statements warning of new fighting.

"Libya is now inside its own international frontiers and wants a complete end to this war between brothers," said Col. Qadhafi, whose troops still control a disputed border region known as the Aouzou Strip.

"Without the departure of the French and Americans there can be no national reconciliation, there can be no peace," Col. Qadhafi added.

France has more than 1,000 troops stationed in its former central African colony while the United States has provided arms and other military equipment to Mr. Habre's government.

Mr. Habre has claimed Libya

has formed a 6,000-man Arab mercenary force to carry out a war against Chad and all of Africa, according to a published report Friday.

Mr. Habre, in an interview in the Ivorian weekly *Ivoire Dimanche*, said the force already was occupying bases in Sudan and Niger.

He said the force was made up of Druze militiamen from Lebanon, Palestinians from various PLO factions, Syrians, pilots from Algeria and mercenaries from both North and South Yemen.

"We have informed... African leaders of the Libyan aggression undertaken by a fundamentally racist and expansionist political philosophy," Mr. Habre said.

"We appreciate the increasing awareness in Africa of the Chad-Libya war which is in the process of taking on other dimensions with the racial overtones certain Arab countries and Qadhafi want to give it," he said.

Algeria has denied it sent pilots to fight in Libya.

Mr. Habre said Libya was operating a military base with a 3,000-metre airstrip in neighbouring Niger which threatened Chadian and Nigerian security.

He said the base was manned by Druze, Palestinian and Syrian mercenaries.

"Since the political changes in Sudan, particularly since the accession of Sadek Al Mahdi,

Iran sends home body of German killed at power plant

NICOSIA (R) — Iran laid out a guard of honour when the body of a West German engineer killed in an Iraqi raid on a nuclear power plant was flown home from Tehran on Saturday.

The Iranian National News Agency (IRNA) said a ceremony was held at Tehran's Mehrabad International Airport before the body of Joregen Friedrich was flown out aboard an Iran Air Jumbo.

It said officials from Iran's Foreign Ministry and Atomic Energy Organisation attended the ceremony, along with the West German Ambassador in Tehran Armin Freitag.

Mr. Friedrich was one of 10 people reported killed when Iraqi aircraft bombed the unfinished power plant at Bushehr on Iran's Gulf coast last Nov. 17.

Iran said the attack could have caused a Chernobyl-type nuclear accident but the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna said there was no radiation danger.

The IAEA countered Iranian charges on Friday that it was dragging its feet over the Iraqi attack.

IAEA Director General Hans Blix said in a message to Iranian Deputy Prime Minister Reza Amrollahi that the agency was ready to help Iran but added he doubted the Nov. 17 air raid could cause a dangerous radiation leak.

Mr. Amrollahi accused the United Nations body on Thursday of tacitly approving of the Iraqi strike and said it was resorting to "time consuming and ineffective correspondence instead of rapid and productive measures befitting the emergency situation."

Mr. Blix said radioactive leaks or the risk of them anywhere were of immediate concern to the agency.

"(The IAEA) is at all times ready to offer assistance needed to assess any such releases and to advise on action to contain and control their radiological consequences," he said in the message, a copy of which was made available to Reuters.

U.S. convoy heads out of Gulf

DUBAI (R) — An Iranian warship shadowed a U.S. warship escort told the Iranian vessel to keep its distance as the formation passed this port city on Saturday.

Reporters in a helicopter saw the Iranian ship steaming within five miles off the six-ship convoy, the 19th since the United States began protecting American-flag-

ged Kuwaiti tankers in July.

Shipping sources said the U.S. warship escort told the Iranian vessel to keep its distance as the formation passed this port city on Saturday.

The tankers were the liquefied gas carriers Gas Queen and Gas Prince, both 46,700 tonnes, and the 290,000-tonne product carrier Townsend.

U.N. mission highlights problems of Saharan war

By Jonathan Clayton
Reuter

RABAT — A U.N. mission to the Western Sahara, where Moroccan troops are engaged in bloody combat with Algerian-backed desert fighters, has highlighted a war the world has largely forgotten.

After nearly 12 years of fighting both sides now support a referendum in the former Spanish colony. But North African diplomats and analysts say agreement on that single point masks divisions that augur ill for a settlement.

A vote would settle the issue of independence or integration with King Hassan's Morocco. His troops currently control about three-quarters of the mineral-rich territory.

Diplomatic sources in both Rabat and Algiers say that other than support for a "people's vote," there is no common ground between the two sides.

Rabat insists the territory has always been part of Morocco and says it will only leave if it loses the vote. It says its occupation is legitimised by an accord under which Spain evacuated the region at the end of February 1976.

"This is the first time any coun-

try has freely accepted a referendum in its territory. Usually this type of consultation is imposed on the country concerned."

Minister of State without portfolio Ahmad Alaoui said this week.

But Algiers maintains that, to allow the population a free choice, Morocco must withdraw before a vote.

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"No-one, not even its closest allies, has accepted Moroccan sovereignty in the Western Sahara. It is not enough to say 'we are there.' You cannot gain sovereignty in such a way," an Algerian Foreign Ministry spokesman told Reuters.

Since the deal with Spain, King Hassan's army has fought Polisario guerrillas whose diplomatic arm, the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR), is now recognised by 69 states as legitimate ruler of the 165,000-square-kilometre area.

From rear bases at Tindouf in south western Algeria, Polisario launches sporadic raids against the Moroccans.

Nowadays, however, the guerrillas rarely penetrate beyond a 1,600-kilometre defensive barrier

of sand bristling with electronic alarms — known simply as "the wall."

The wall runs south to the Mauritania border, enclosing all the territory's coastline, towns and mines. Since it was completed this year, both sides have agreed there is military stalemate.

"It has become one of the world's forgotten wars. They both know they can carry on killing a few on each side from time to time, but there will be no ultimate victory," one Maghreb analyst said.

Some 48 hours before the arrival last Saturday of a United Nations fact-finding team, each side claimed it had inflicted between 400 and 500 casualties on the other in two battles in remote parts of the region.

Polisario has since called a two-week truce while the U.N. mission tours the region and both sides wage aggressive press campaigns claiming the support of the local population.

Throughout the week, Moroccan papers have carried long interviews with Polisario defectors describing how they escaped the "living hell" of Tindouf to rejoin their countrymen.

The official Algerian press

published reports of anti-Moroccan demonstrations and spoke of a "reign of terror" in the territory.

Eyewitnesses reported no such events and said villages and towns were awash with Moroccan flags and portraits of King Hassan.

"If everyone is happy like the Moroccans say, why the army, why the wall, why the fighting?" said Abdel Fatah, head of the Polisario mission in Algiers.

Algiers is also insisting on direct negotiations between the Polisario and Morocco, and Polisario disputes the right on Moroccan settlers to vote in any referendum.

Rabat, which has ploughed millions of dollars into the territory, counters that many people in the Tindouf refugee camps are nomadic tribesmen with few links to the Western Sahara and says they would be ineligible to vote.

The U.N. mission, led by Abdul Rahim Abby Farah of Somalia, under-secretary general for special political questions, is gathering data on how to arrange a ceasefire and on the practical problems of organising any poll in such an area.

It moves on to tour Saharan refugee camps in Tindouf next week.

Kyprianou in hospital after heart attack

NICOSIA (R) — Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou, who faces a gruelling election in February, had a heart attack and will be in hospital for at least a week, an official statement said on Saturday.

Mr. Kyprianou, 55, was rushed to Nicosia's main hospital on Friday suffering from chest pains.

"The health of the president, who spent a quiet night, is developing satisfactorily," the statement said.

"You can't say he's out of the woods until 48 hours have passed," a medical expert told Reuters.

Mr. Kyprianou suffered the attack shortly after recording a televised campaign message for the 1988 presidential election.

"He looked terrible and his hands were trembling," one viewer said of the broadcast, aired later in the day.

It was not immediately clear if the speaker of parliament, Vassos Lyssarides, would take over as acting president.

Mr. Kyprianou appeared to be carrying out duties on Saturday, sending a personal telegram to mark Yugoslav National Day.

Mr. Kyprianou, a heavy smoker and workaholic, spent several days in hospital in May last year for an irregular heartbeat. He became president in 1977 on the death of Archbishop Makarios and has twice been re-elected.

Rebels kidnap 2 Italians, 3 Ethiopians

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP) — An Ethiopian rebel group said Saturday its fighters kidnapped two Italians and three Ethiopians because the development project they were working on would strengthen the Addis Ababa government.

Mohammad Jameel, Khartoum representative of the little-known Ethiopian People's Revolution-

ary Party (EPRP), said the hostages are "safe and well" but that scores of government soldiers and civilians died in heavy fighting that followed the Nov. 16 abductions.

In a press statement, Jameel identified the Italians as Salvatore Barone and Paolo Bellini, technicians at the Tana-Beles project at Lake Tana in north

western Ethiopia.

On Nov. 17, the Italian Foreign Ministry said Barone, 27, and Bellini, 36, had been kidnapped from their work site with the geological company So. Ri. Ge. Perforazioni di Parma, Italy. The Italian statement did not mention the Ethiopian hostages but said a third Italian, travelling in a separate vehicle, had escaped.

Ozal seen losing firm grip on parliament

ANKARA (R) — Turkish political leaders made their final campaign pitches on Saturday for an election that is likely to loosen Prime Minister Turgut Ozal's firm grip on the country.

Opinion polls point to Mr. Ozal's Motherland Party winning another five-year mandate in voting on Sunday but this time with a strong opposition in parliament to challenge his policies.

A late surge by the Social Democrat Populist Party (SDPP), which backs Mr. Ozal's drive to join the European Community (EC), should give it a major role in the new 450-seat chamber.

The conservative Ozal, campaigning on a record of political stability and economic liberalisation, evoked memories of violence in the 1970s by accusing the centre-left SDPP of attracting members of the banned Turkish Communist Party.

"All the extremists, including the Turkish Communist Party, are striving to strengthen the SDPP," he told reporters on Friday night. "It only serves to give the SDPP false hope."

SDPP leader Erdal Inonu, academic son of a respected for-

mer Turkish president, launched fresh attacks on Turkey's soaring inflation and said he looked forward to taking power.

The poll, the most open since military rule ended in 1983, is widely seen as a sign that NATO member Turkey wants to brush up its poor democratic image.

The campaign has been marred by bomb attacks on several Motherland offices and the controversial detention of two Communist leaders on their return from self-exile in Europe.

The latest opinion poll in the mass-circulation daily *Sabah* gave the Motherland Party 260 seats and 36.3 per cent of the vote, the SDPP 145 seats and 28.8 per cent, and the right-of-centre True Path Party (TPP) 45 seats and 19 per cent.

This compared with Motherland holding 249 seats in the 400-member outgoing parliament and facing only token opposition from the SDPP with 53 and the TPP 44.

Some polls suggested Mr. Ozal would fall narrowly to win an overall 226-seat majority from the 26.3 million voters.

All polls indicate the four other contesting parties, including ex-

premier Bulent Ecevit's Democratic Left Party (DLP), will not win any seats. They have to gain at least 10 per cent of the national vote to take seats.

However voters could be swayed by last-minute television addresses by all seven parties.

Political analysts said many supporters from the DLP had gone over to the SDPP, modelled on lines of European Social Democratic groups, because of their party's waning fortunes.

There has been talk of a possible coalition between the SDPP and the TPP, led by four-time premier Suleyman Demirel, if the pro-big business Motherland slumps badly at the polls.

Officials from both parties have indicated that such an arrangement is possible, if only to dump Mr. Ozal and his broad-based party combining Western-trained technocrats, Islamic fundamentalists and moderate leftists.

Another possibility is a coalition between the Motherland and the TPP. But this could falter quickly because of brittle relations between Mr. Ozal and his onetime mentor Mr. Demirel.

TV & RADIO

WHAT'S GOING ON

FOR THE TRAVELLER

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 771111-14

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Kor-1

15:50 Programme Review

15:55 Dennis the Menace

16:20 Punky Brewster

16:45 Children's Scientific programme

17:10 Walt Disney

18:00 Local Agricultural programme

18:25 Soccer

19:00 Programme review

19:30 News in Arabic

20:30 Arabic series

21:30 Programme on Arabic

22:30 T.V. Magazine (local)

23:00 News Summary

23:10 Close down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

630, 721, 1225 KHz

06:00 Newsweek 06:30 Music for a While 06:45 Reflections 06:50 Financial Review 07:00 World News 07:09 World News 07:30 Day-Gell's Songbook 07:45 Letter from America 08:00 Newsweek 08:30 Sex and Society 09:00 World News 09:09 24 Hours: News Summary 09:30 Sports 09:45 Sportsweek 09:50 Waveguide 10:00 World News 10:09 Reflections 10:15 Sportsweek 10:45 A Personal Look at Remembrance 11:00 World News 11:00 British Press Review 11:15 Through My Window 11:30 Financial News: Look Ahead 11:45 On the Road 12:00 News Summary: Sep and Soviet 12:15 Closed: Reuters Review 12:20 War Graves Commission Talk 12:30 Religious Service 13:00 World News 13:09 News About Britain 13:15 From Our Own Correspondent 13:20 War Graves Commission Talk 13:30 Malice in Opera 13:39 News About Britain 13:45 From Our Own Correspondent 14:00 News Summary: Play of the Week: Do You Hear Me 14:15 My Music 14:45 The Bandits Request Show 15:00 News Summary 15:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 15:30 Sports Roundup 15:45 Sports Roundup 16:00 News Summary 16:30 Quiz, Unlucky 16:39 Issues in Light 17:00 Radio: Newsweek 17:09 Commentary 17:15 Concert Hall 18:00 World News 18:09 Reflections 18:15 MAD 18:30 Letter from America 19:00 World News

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7201, 9565, 1171, 11925 and 15210 KHz

06:00 News 06:10 VOA Morning 07:00 News 07:10 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 VOA Morning 17:00 News 17:10 News Horizons 17:30 Studio One 18:00 News 18:10 Encounter 18:20 Special English News & Features 19:00 News 19:10 Critics' Choice 19:30 Issues in Light 20:00 News 20:10 Encounter 20:30 Special English News & Features 21:00 News 21:10 Sunday Report 21:30 Music, USA Standards 22:00 News & Features 22:10 The Concert Hall 23:00 News 23:10 News Horizons 23:30 Studio One

PROGRAMME TWO

17:15 "Deschiffres et des lettres"

18:00 Rue Carnot

18:30 L'Ecole des Funs

19:00 News in French

19:15 French varieties

19:30 News in Hebrew

19:45 Your Diet

20:00 News in Arabic

20:30 Charles in Charge

21:10 Heart of the Matter (documentary)

22:00 News in English

22:30 The Love Boat

23:10 The Equalizer

RADIO JORDAN

885 KHz. AM & 99 MHz FM

& partly on 95.0 KHz. SW

Tel: 771111-14

07:00 Light Music

07:30 Newsweek

08:00 Morning Show

09:00 News Summary

11:05 In Concert

12:00 News Summary

12:05 Pop Talk

13:00 News Summary

13:05 Pop Session contd.

14:00 News Bulletin

14:30 Instruments

15:00 Science Report

15:00 Concert Hour

16:00 News Summary

16:05 Instruments

16:30 Old Favourites

17:00 Science Report

18:00 News Summary

18:05 Listener's Choice

19:00 Newsweek

19:30 Music with a Star

20:00 Evening Show

21:00 News Summary

21:05 Evening Show continued

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

★ Turkish products exhibition at the Housing Bank Centre.

★ An exhibition of watercolour paintings of Jordan and Egypt by Martin Savage at the Petra Bank Gallery, Wadi Saqra (until Nov. 30 to Dec. 5)

★ An exhibition of watercolours of Amman, Salt, Jerash and Petra by British watercolourist Mary Jones at the Gallery of the Jordan International Hotel (until Nov. 30)

★ Soviet book exhibition at the Professional Associations Complex in Shmeisani (until Nov. 30).

EUROPEAN WEEK

★ A European film festival and an exhibition of photographs and posters at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Dec. 1).

Tonight's film: "Autumn in a Sengene" (Italian) at 8:30 p.m.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6610267

American Centre .. 644371

American Centre Library .. 641520

British Council .. 6361478

French Cultural Centre .. 637019

Guelite Institute .. 641993

Soviet Cultural Centre .. 64203

Spanish Cultural Centre .. 624049

Turkish Cultural Centre .. 634777

Haya Arts Centre .. 665195

Husseini Youth City .. 671816

Y.W.C.A. .. 641793

Y.W.M.A. .. 66251

Amman Municipal Library .. 637111

Univ. of Jordan Library .. 943555

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweibeh, Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, Tel. 661757.

Terrassanta Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweibeh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 622366.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abadi, Tel. 623541.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, Tel. 625383.

chaplain's residence tel. 601359.

Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771351.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 777751.

Interdenominational Council (Interdenominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, Tel. 677534.

Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) in Amman, Arabic Service: Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Smir R11295

Rainbow Congregation (meets at the Good Shepherd's Church) Interdenominational, vernacular, English Service: Saturday 6:30 p.m. tel. 626055, Rev. Veli.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon) Tel. 815-817, 821-664.

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at all times.

Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (14th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m.

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

09:15 Aqaba (RJ)

09:30 Kuwait (RJ)

09:30 Jeddah (RJ)

09:35 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)

10:00 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)

16:20 Athens (add.) (RJ)

19:55 Cairo (RJ)

17:00 London (RJ)

17:50 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)

18:00 Paris (RJ)

18:05 Frankfurt (RJ)

18:05 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)

18:15 Brussels, Geneva (RJ)

18:30 Madrid, Rome (RJ)

23:55 Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

09:00 Damascus, Paris (AF)

10:20 Cairo (MS)

12:10 Rome (AZ)

13:00 Tripoli (LN)

14:00 Tripoli (add.) (LN)

13:45 Bahrain, Sharja (GF)

14:00 Jeddah (SV)

15:00 Kuwait (KU)

17:30 Athens (OA)

20:00 Sharja (GF)

22:50 Beirut (ME)

PRAYER TIMES

04:52 Fajr

06:15 Sunrise/Duha

11:34 Dhuhr

14:11 Asr

16:32 Maghreb

17:56 Isha

MONEY EXCHANGE

Saturday rates

Local sell/buy rates in Jds

Belgian franc 179/17

Dutch guilder 179/17

French franc 59/58

Italian lira 27/27

Japanese yen (for 100) 249/3

Swedish crown 55/4

Swiss franc 245/4

U.K. sterling pound 413/4

U.S. dollar 332/9

W. German mark 201/4

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be fair, with the appearance of medium and high clouds. Winds will be southeasterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm seas.

Amman Min./max. temp. 12/17

Aqaba 14/27

Dahsh 7/27

Jordan Valley 14/28

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 21, Aqaba 26. Humidity readings: Amman 30 per cent, Aqaba 30 per cent.

DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

07:00 Aqaba (RJ)

10:30 Athens (add.) (RJ)

11:00 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)

12:30 Cairo (RJ)

19:40 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)

19:45 Dubai, Muscat (RJ)

19:50 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)

20:00 Baghdad (RJ)

20:00 London (RJ)

20:15 Jeddah, Sharja (RJ)

21:15 Cairo (RJ)

21:15 Damascus (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

09:00 Berlin (LF)

09:35 Cairo (MS)

11:20 Damascus (AZ)

11:45 Kuwait (AZ)

12:45 Sharja, Doha (GF)

12:55 Jeddah (SV)

13:00 Tripoli (add.) (LN)

13:40 Kuwait (KU)

16:35 Athens (OA)

19:55 Frankfurt (LF)

21:05 Cairo (MS)

00:25 London, Cairo (BA)

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate 891228

Amman Civil Defence 198, 199

Civil Defence Irbid 271293, 273131

Civil Defence Qawmish 770733

Civil Defence Dera Aila 57396

Ambulance 193, 77511

Amman downtown fire brigade 198

First aid 620341

Blood Bank 778303

Civil Defence rescue 820611

Fire headquarters 620611

Police rescue 192, 62111, 63777

Police headquarters 639141

Traffic police 896390

Electric Power Co. (EPC) 638614

Municipal waste complaints 7711258

Queen Alia Int. Airport (08)5333080

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Suhail Tannous 894964

Dr. Jamil Maraga 776140

Dr. Munir Warda 782352

Dr. Aref Dubbas 668384

Firas pharmacy 651912

Fordows pharmacy 787336

Al Asema pharmacy 637055

Nairoukh pharmacy 626762

Al Salam pharmacy 636750

TAXIS:

Abraham taxi 663911

Fawcett taxi 644355

Palestine taxi 671473

Shmeisani taxi 665294

Mehyar taxi 644574

Khayyam taxi 841577

Jordan taxi 645079

Asm taxi 644505

IRBID:

Dr. A. Habbab 343796

Halabi pharmacy (-)

Wahran pharmacy (-)

ZARQA:

Dr. Rabah Borini 685048

Fadi pharmacy (-)

Zarqa New Pharmacy (-)

GENERAL

Jordan Television 773111/19

Radio Jordan 774111/19

Ministry of Tourism 642311

Hotel complaints 666612

Price complaints 661176

Telephone Information 661176

Jordan and Middle East calls 10

Overseas calls 17

Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jds per kg

Apple (different kinds) 300/250

Apple (French) 400/350

Banana 350/300

Banana (Mukammal) 300/240

Beans 130/100

Cabbage 90/60

Cauliflower 90/60

Cucumbers 240/180

Dates 360/300

Eggplant (large) 80/30

Eggplant (small) 120/80

Garlic 450/350

Grapes (black) 400/350

Grapefruit 120/80

Guava 260/200

Lemon 100/70

Mandarin 130/100

Marrow 100/70

Olives (green) 750/650

Olives (dry) 640/580

Onion (dry) 170/120

Oranges (Abu Sura) 260/200

Oranges (Shamouni) 180/120

Pepper (hot) 90/60

Pepper (sweet) 90/60

Potato 250/200

Radish 80/50

Spinach 90/60

Tomatoes 90/50

Queen tours health facilities in Maan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor on Saturday visited a government hospital here, where she inspected its facilities and met with patients to hear their views about the hospital's services.

Accompanied by Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh, the Queen met with the director of health services in Maan Governorate and the director and staff of a hospital to hear their views on the conditions of the hospital and the efforts they are making to improve the quality of services. Dr. Hamzeh spoke about the general health conditions in Maan Governorate and the services offered by the ministry through its local health centres.

Arab transport ministers and talks in Tunis

UNIS (Petra) — The third meeting of the Council of Arab Ministers of Transport ended on Saturday with a decision to hold the council's next session in 1988.

Minister of Transport Ahmad Dahqan, who represented Jordan at the meeting, said that the council decided that all facilities Arab seaports and airports will be provided for Iraq's use without extra charge, in order to help in the war effort against Iran. The council called for safeguarding freedom of international shipping in the Gulf waterways.

in accordance with international laws and condemned all attempts to plant mines in Gulf waters, the minister said.

He added that the council called for the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 552 of 1984, which urges all parties to avoid attacks on international shipping.

The council has decided to set up an Arab institution to study the prospect of setting up a plant for building ships and cargo vessels, in cooperation with other international shipping firms, Mr. Dahqan noted.

Jordan, Iraq to boost border cooperation

AFRAQ (J.T.) — An Iraqi team on Saturday wound up a week-long visit to Jordan by signing a statement that the Iraqi team's visit to Jordan was designed to enhance bilateral cooperation, mainly with regard to border issues.

Mafrag Governor Fayez Abbas signed for Jordan, while Juan Ghidan, governor of Al Anbar in Iraq, signed for his country at a ceremony held at the Mafrag governor's house, attended by senior police officers and the commander of the border police force.

The protocol, signed in 1984, provides for continued consultations by officials from both sides to bolster cooperation in dealing with common border issues.

Following the signing ceremony, Mr. Ghidan said in a statement that the Iraqi team's visit to Jordan was designed to enhance bilateral cooperation, mainly with regard to border issues.

During the visit, the Iraqi delegation toured a number of Jordanian development projects and visited the Iraqi martyrs cemetery in Mafrag.

At the end of the ceremony, the Iraqi delegation left for home, concluding their visit, during which they were received by Minister of Interior Rajai Dajani and other officials. Upon departure, the delegation was seen off by local officials.

Haj Hassan opens national data centre

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Haj Hassan on Saturday opened a national data centre providing information on the economic and social development of Jordan.

The centre has four computers and can cater to the private and public sectors and will be coordinating its work with a similar unit at the Ministry of Planning and another at the Department of Statistics, according to the minister.

Mr. Haj Hassan said the new centre will also exchange information on social development with the various organisations that deal with social work, like the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS).

The minister expressed hope that the centre will provide planners and officials with the information necessary to help chart socioeconomic development projects in the Kingdom.

Hindawi reviews new education plans in Tafleeh

AFLEH (Petra) — The Ministry of Education is currently reassessing the educational process in the country, paying particular attention to improvement in teaching conditions, Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi said on Saturday.

Speaking at a meeting for educational departments and teachers in the Tafleeh region, Mr. Hindawi also said that his ministry is currently planning to set up technical centres at a number of schools around the country, offering practical training courses to complement the theoretical courses offered at schools.

theoretical courses offered at schools.

The minister said that ministry officials are also revising plans for allowing schools to organise trips, with the purpose of giving children opportunities to visit tourist sites and industrial and economic projects in the country.

Mr. Hindawi toured Hasa and Jurf Al Dararawi, where he met with officials and discussed educational problems. In Tafleeh itself, the minister opened a new vocational school, built at a cost of JD 1.5 million.

Jordan, Spain to discuss parliamentary relations

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian parliamentary delegation will begin an official visit to Spain on Tuesday. The delegation will be led by King Juan Carlos and members of the Spanish senate, according to an official announcement on Saturday.

The announcement said that Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi will lead the delegation, which will hold talks on bolstering bilateral relations in parliamentary affairs and other subjects of mutual interest.

Marriott boosts tourism again

AMMAN — The Amman Marriott Hotel, in coordination with Peace Tourism and Travel, is helping to promote tourism in Jordan from Canada. The first group of Canadian tourists has already arrived in Amman.

They will be hosted by the expert Marriott staff and will be given first class treatment and tours to remember.

Symposium addresses increasingly dangerous problem of road accidents

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-day symposium on the prevention of road accidents opened here on Saturday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Interior Minister Rajai Dajani, who deputised for Prince Hassan at the meeting, welcomed the participants and said that Jordan hoped the symposium would come up with resolutions and proposals for measures to reduce the number of road accidents in the Kingdom.

"Road accidents have become an increasingly dangerous phenomenon, threatening human lives and causing severe damage to economic and social development," the minister said.

Statistics on road accidents show that they are responsible for the largest number of deaths, far exceeding the number of victims of natural disasters and wars, Mr. Dajani pointed out.

He said that in one Arab country, the number of accidents during the past year totalled 20,000 including 4,420 deaths and 25,600 injuries.

Mr. Dajani added that these accidents are estimated to cost JD 45 million in economic losses.

Zuhair Malhas, president of the Jordanian Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents (JSPRA), also addressed the opening session and outlined the society's efforts, in cooperation with the Public Security Department (PSD), to reduce road accidents in the Kingdom.

Dr. Malhas said that this symposium is the first of its kind because it covers road accidents in the Arab World in general and will focus attention on ways to end the carnage on the roads throughout the Arab World.

Acting PSD Director Major General Sami Al Saket made a speech in which he noted that Jordan has suffered for years as a result of road problems and the growing number of accidents.

"We are encouraged that this symposium is being held in Jordan following a successful Arab summit meeting during which the Arab leaders agreed on bolstering their countries' cooperation in all fields, including cooperation in safeguarding human lives by stemming the dangers on the road," Maj.-Gen. Saket said.

He added that the PSD has made serious efforts and introduced numerous measures for tightening control over the roads, in addition to contributing to legislation and regulations aimed at reducing road accidents.

Dr. Rawhi Al Sharif told the meeting that the JSPRA has set up a preparatory committee, with the representation of various ministries and the PSD, in order to assist the symposium participants in dealing with the various aspects of the road accidents problem.

According to the organisers, 12 Arab countries are represented at the meeting, which will discuss a total of 24 working papers.

Following the opening session, which was attended by a number of Cabinet ministers, PSD and civil defence officers and representatives of government departments, the participants began their first working session, which included a discussion of a paper on Jordan's experiment in spreading awareness among members of the public in matters concerning traffic and road accidents.

The paper by Dr. Sharif and Dr. Ahmad Al Faqih of the University of Jordan and Major Tawfiq Al Juneidi from the PSD also called for the information media to provide guidance to the public on these matters.

A second paper on traffic rules was presented by Dr. Mahmoud Al Bustan from Kuwait University. The paper reviewed the effect of traffic on the lives of individuals and societies, with particular attention to school children who are most vulnerable to accidents.

A third paper by the mufti (religious judge) in Jordan touched on Islamic ethics in relation to road accidents.

In the second working session of this symposium held at the Royal Cultural Centre, the participants discussed a working paper dealing with Jordan's experience on road engineering. The paper tackled the construction and maintenance of roads in the Kingdom, as well as the efforts of the Ministry of Public Works, the Greater Amman Municipality, the Ministry of Interior and the PSD towards reducing road accidents.

The paper recommended that a higher council on safety on the roads be established to deal directly with all parties and organisations dealing with road problems.

The participants also discussed a paper on road signs by Dr. Mohammad Shaker from the ministry of transport in Egypt, another on technical specifications of roads by Dr. Fathi Judeh from Egypt and a third by Dr. Mohammad Aqrabi from Iraq, dealing with energy consumption on the roads.

Senate voices total satisfaction with summit results

(Continued from page 1)

session was very similar to that demonstrated by the 60-member Lower House of Parliament last week and feelings echoed by other institutions and Jordanian dignitaries.

In addition, the central theme in the speeches made by Senators Jumaa Hamad, Ahmad Al Tarawneh, Hikmat Al Masri, Walid Salah, Akram Zuaitar, Hazem Nuseibeh, Rashid Ureikat, Barjas Al Hadid, Salem Ibn Najad and Hassan Odeh was hope that Arab leaders would be further successful in their endeavours to follow up and implement the summit's resolutions.

"Had the summit failed in arriving at a united Arab stand on major issues of discussion, the Arab World would have faced a true catastrophe," said Sen. Zuaitar. But the summit's spirit and the objective discussions among the Arab leaders helped "sidestep the catastrophe and failures which were anticipated by our enemies," he said.

Sen. Hamad said the summit's outcome was just the beginning of pan-Arab action and solidarity. "We realise, as the world does realise, that the Amman summit was just a commencement, a beginning that requires enormous efforts, honesty, hope and trust for the treatment of all residues of inter-Arab rifts," he said.

"The great achievement of (the Amman summit) will remain incomplete unless backed by practical steps to achieve the aspirations of the Arab people," Sen. Hadid said the success of the summit was inherent in the fact that it paved the way and opened the door to a "new era of joint Arab action, work and solidarity."

"The summit revived the hopes and aspirations in the spirit of every Arab... The meeting has also raised the morale of our people in the occupied Arab territories," said Mr. Hadid.

Sen. Ureikat said the summit had "united the Arab World and heralded the beginning of the Arab march on the right direction towards meeting the nation's higher interests."

Mr. Masri expressed hope that "God will give King Hussein more strength in the service of his nation and in his efforts to complete his nationalistic mission to achieve the goals of all Arabs through the regaining of Palestine and the Golan Heights and ending the Iran-Iraq war."

Mr. Hadid and others also expressed hope that the Iran-Iraq war would end soon following the unanimous Arab stand on the conflict and an appeal to the international community to intensify efforts to implement U.N. Security Council Resolution 598.

The resolutions reached by the summit "were strongly welcomed throughout the Arab World," noted Sen. Salah. However, the hopes of all Arabs are pinned on the Arab leaders to implement all resolutions adopted by the summit, Mr. Salah said.

Sen. Salah said he was confident that the results of the summit would crystallise soon and His Majesty "deserves all our support in his march towards realising his nationalistic aspirations."

He urged the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to resume political coordination with Jordan. "I call on the PLO to put its hand in the hand of His Majesty with all sincerity. I hope the PLO has realised now that the only means for supporting the steadfastness of our people in the occupied territories and for regaining this land lies in this coordination," said Mr. Salah.

He also called on all Arab states to implement the 1953 Joint Arab Defence Pact if Iran did not respond to calls for ending the war.

Other resolutions of the summit, including the expression of support for war-torn Lebanon and the decision to clear the way for resumption of diplomatic ties with Egypt, were hailed by Sen.

Salah and other senators.

"The fact that the majority of Arab states have restored their diplomatic relations with Cairo following the summit indicated that Arab solidarity could only be completed with Egypt," Mr. Salah said.

Sen. Odeh hoped that the Arab leaders would continue to meet on regular basis since the challenges facing the Arab Nation "are enormous and require all possible inter-Arab consultation."

Sen. Tarawneh said the summit's resolutions "were in line with Arab aspirations and in support of King Hussein's constant stand on pan-Arab issues and policies."

Other senators, including Mr. Nuseibeh, referred to the Syrian-Iraqi reconciliation which took shape at the summit and said it was a great achievement for all Arabs. "What took place between Syria and Iraq is a great achievement and will further crystallise with the actual steps in the direction of normalising ties between the two countries," Dr. Nuseibeh said.

The senators also expressed appreciation for the efforts undertaken by the concerned government departments involved in preparations for the summit.

During Saturday's meeting, the Senate referred to its Legal Committee a 1987 law paving the way for establishing Jordan's first-ever judicial academy responsible for training personnel to fill judiciary posts and upgrading the qualifications of judges and jurists already working in public institutions.

The academy will enroll judicial personnel with bachelors degrees in law who have been working in the field of law for a minimum of two years, as well as personnel who have been occupying public judicial positions or performing clerical jobs in courts. The law was endorsed by the Lower House of Parliament on Tuesday.

Syria played key role in hostage release

(Continued from page 1)

appearing Saturday afternoon that "the payment of a ransom contributed to the conclusion of the negotiations with the kidnappers." It furnished no other details.

Mr. Chirac, in a brief speech at the airport before the arrival of the two former hostages, formally denied that any ransom was paid and called the report a "deceitful allegation with no basis."

A militia source in Beirut told Reuters a ransom was paid for the release but could not say how much. Other sources could not confirm that money had changed hands.

Paris has repeatedly said it is opposed to bargaining over kidnapping victims, effectively ruling out payment of ransom.

backing for the Revolutionary Justice Organisation and other radical groups in Lebanon, whose anti-Western rhetoric mirrors Tehran's.

Before freeing the two, Revolutionary Justice Organisation said it had received assurances that France would meet demands for changes in its Middle East policy and end support for Iraq in its seven-year war with Iran.

Iran has repeatedly denied any direct links to the abductors of foreigners in Lebanon, but it did say it could influence some of the radical hostage-takers.

Syria has repeatedly spoken of its own role in freeing Lebanon hostages, saying it had a hand in the release of at least 16 in the past two years and was ready to help free others.

officials in Lebanon are never seen publicly to be involved with hostage cases.

But security sources and diplomats quoted by Reuters said they believed kidnappers only set their captives free after obtaining Iranian blessing.

"Iran is the master and the gunmen here only carry out orders," one source said. The diplomats said they suspected a link between the release of Mr. Normandin and Mr. Aque and efforts by Iran and France to improve relations.

Paris and Tehran cut diplomatic ties in July this year after Vahid Gordini, an interpreter at the Iranian embassy in Paris, refused to face questioning over allegations that he was involved in a series of bombings in Paris in 1986.

Jordan and EEC begin in-depth review of all aspects of cooperation

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan looks to Europe as a partner in the process of development and as an ideal example of a party willing to cooperate with the Kingdom towards the goal of achieving the country's economic and social objectives, University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali said here on Saturday.

He said that Jordan also hopes for continued dialogue aimed at expanding its present cooperation with the European Economic Community (EEC) countries in all fields.

Addressing the opening session of a seminar on Jordan's economic integration and cooperation with the EEC on behalf of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Dr. Majali said that the seminar coincides with the 10th anniversary of a Jordanian-EEC agreement on economic and social cooperation.

"The working papers which will be discussed by the officials and scholars in this seminar will focus light on the nature of this fruitful relationship," Dr. Majali said.

He said that Jordan, under the guidance and leadership of His Majesty King Hussein, has been extending a hand of friendship and respect to the rest of the world and seeking cooperation in economic and social development.

"Jordan — a small country poor in natural resources and confronting enormous military and political challenges — through this wise policy has advanced greatly and has become a

model for economic and social development," Dr. Majali stressed.

Advanced education is one of the country's main development objectives, Dr. Majali pointed out. He said that the Kingdom deeply appreciates EEC assistance to Jordan in all areas and particularly in education. Dr. Majali noted that the EEC had provided the Faculty of Engineering and Technology at the University of Jordan with a computer centre, as well as financing other projects.

"Jordan hopes that this cooperation will continue, that the EEC will help Jordan absorb modern technology and promote the work of its higher educational institutions," Dr. Majali said.

Later addressing the session was Roger Owen, the director of the Middle East Centre at Oxford University in England, which organised the seminar in cooperation with the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University.

Dr. Owen underlined the importance of cooperation between Jordan's universities and Oxford University, noting that the current seminar was one fruit of this cooperation.

He said the working papers to be discussed at the meetings would reflect the experiences of countries in other parts of the world and would help to fuse ideas and information presented by scholars and scientists.

President of Yarmouk University Mohammad Hamdan also spoke at the session, saying that the seminar was designed to focus the light on Jordan-EEC economic and trade relations with a view to further promoting these ties and developing cooperation in energy, finance and politics. He pointed, in particular, to developing political cooperation with regard to the occupied Arab territories, where Jordan is seeking to implement social and economic development projects.

"Jordan, though poor in resources, is open to modern development and is bound to the Arab World while maintaining strong ties with Europe — a situation which serves the interests of all parties," Dr. Hamdan said.

He called on the EEC countries to reduce the trade tariffs and restrictions on Jordan's exports to their markets, thereby promoting Jordan's European exports.

The opening session was attended by Dr. Jawad Al Anani, president of the Royal Scientific Society, which is sponsoring the meeting, senior government officials and EEC officials in Jordan.

The seminar is being held at the Ministry of Higher Education.

British parliamentary team briefed on Palestine

AMMAN (Petra) — A team from the British House of Commons met here on Saturday with Dr. Ahmad Qatanani, under secretary of the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs, who spoke about the development of the Palestine problem and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The team, which represents the British Liberal Party, heard Dr. Qatanani reiterate Jordan's call for an international conference under United Nations auspices and with the participation of all concerned parties, in addition to the permanent Security Council members.

Dr. Qatanani spoke about Israel's human rights violations in the occupied Arab territories and its construction of settlements on Arab-owned land.

He also briefed the delegation on the Jordanian government's assistance to the people of the occupied Arab territories through the economic and social development programme designed to enhance the steadfastness of the Arab population in the face of Israel's repressive measures designed to force the Arabs to abandon their homeland.

He said Jordan was providing assistance to the Palestinian refugees in cooperation with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).

legation later met with Nabih Al Nimer, the Foreign Ministry's secretary general and discussed similar subjects, particularly Jordan's efforts for convening an international conference to achieve peace in the Middle East.

Mr. Nimer briefed the visitors on the outcome of the Amman Arab summit, and the current efforts being made to end the Gulf conflict through the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598.

The delegation members expressed their understanding of the region's problems and paid tribute to His Majesty King Hussein for his efforts in seeking peace in the region.



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Myth of invincibility shattered

THE spectacular and courageous glider raid on an Israeli army camp last Wednesday proves that Israeli defences are not impregnable, no matter how sophisticated they are. It also proves that the cycle of violence in the Middle East will not abate as long as the Arab-Israeli conflict remains unresolved. Another striking aspect of this latest daring attack on an Israeli military establishment is the fact that it was carried out by a multi-national Arab team composed of Palestinians, Syrians, Lebanese, and Tunisians. Perhaps there is a message here which purports to say to the Israelis and the world at large that the Arab political solidarity achieved at the Amman extraordinary Arab summit can also be expressed in armed struggle against Israeli occupation of Arab territories.

There is no doubt that Israel will now upgrade its defences to account for security problems and threats posed by gliders and other devices intended to penetrate Israeli borders. It will surely retaliate and kill many innocent civilians. But as soon as Israel accomplishes these tasks, the Arab fighters will, in due course, devise yet more daring and ingenious methods to prove Israel's vulnerability and to make it pay for its retaliation. The moral of the story is that Israel is not invincible. One does not have to be a military strategist to comprehend that no country, no matter how sophisticated its defences, can remain forever invulnerable. Only months ago, a lone West German pilot flew undetected right into the heart of the Soviet Union. All of the billions that the Soviets had spent to prevent such penetrations could not make even its capital impregnable. If a superpower cannot make itself impenetrable, surely Israel will remain vulnerable to innovative ventures to cross its borders. It is not long before the age of rocketry and sophisticated missiles dawns heavily on the countries of the Middle East. What Israel can do to stop short and medium-range rockets from penetrating its borders remains to be seen. But one thing is sure: Some of these missiles will escape detection and hit their targets, no matter what.

Should Israeli policy-makers and military strategists truly wish to make their country invincible, there is only one way to do this; they must have peace with their neighbours — both governments and peoples — on the basis of justice and respect for national rights. The endless cycle of violence has become the virtual "natural law" in the Middle East since the creation of Israel in our midst. This cycle will surely continue unabated as long as a solution to the Palestinian problem is not achieved. Instead of continually spending all of its time and money on security concerns and beefing up its defences, Israel would be better advised to give greater attention to searching for a just and durable peace with its neighbours.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Proper denunciation

THE night of terror which was created within an Israeli military camp by an Arab resistance fighter should remind the world that the Arabs have more to give than statements of denunciation or condemnation of Israel's actions. This night of terror would be considered as an example of resistance action in all respects. One Arab was killed for six Israeli soldiers and the injury of eight others. If resistance activity is conducted in this manner, inflicting heavy casualties in the ranks of the enemy, the Israeli leaders would be forced to re-examine their plans and their calculations, and would take speedy steps for the solution of the Palestine problem. For the Arabs, this heroic action on the part of the resistance should serve as a prelude for a new dawn; and they should therefore be ready for any Israeli retaliatory action directed against Syria or any other Arab country. It should be noted that the Arab defence pact had been formed to involve all Arab countries in any act of defence of the Arab land in the face of foreign aggression; and therefore, the Arabs should act firmly and should make sure that the Palestinian camps in Lebanon would not remain alone facing the retaliation of the Israeli enemy. Nor should Syria be left alone in the face of aggression. The Arab countries possess vast potentials and should supply the Palestinians and the Lebanese with the necessary means for defending themselves against enemy attacks. The Arabs have masses of arms and ammunition and should therefore send some of them to Lebanon for carrying out resistance activity. The Arabs also have diplomatic ties with other nations and they ought to exploit these relations to explain their position and should ask the U.N. Security Council to issue warnings to Israel against any terrorist activity on the Arabs. Any statements of condemnation on the part of the Arabs in reply to any Israeli terrorist action would not have any meaning. Condemnation of Israel's actions is not a proper reply to aggression.

Al Dustour: Heroic action

THE Israelis were stunned by the heroic action of the resistance men in the northern parts of occupied Palestine, and they have sent out cries demanding retaliation against the Arabs. Amidst this atmosphere, the Israeli leaders are working out plans for a new aggression which could possibly take the form of raids on Palestinian camps inside Lebanon. There is no doubt that Israel's retaliation would be dangerous and wide ranging, reflecting the ill-nature of Zionism which believes in revenge. This reaction would serve as a futile attempt to erase the consequences of the Arab resistance attack which caused so much frustration within the Israeli society and drew feelings of pride within the Arab society. Israel's coming retaliatory action as expected by observers and reported in the news would only lead to a deepening of the hatred and an escalation of the conflict in the Middle East, and would invite counter revenge on the part of the Arabs similar in style to and with the same deadly effect of the resistance action carried out by the lone attacker. Regardless of the form and the volume of Israel's coming revenge, and no matter how barbarous Israel's behaviour might be, the objective of giving a lesson to Israel has been achieved. Israel should realise that what happened Wednesday night in its military camp could happen once again, and that resistance activity would be repeated until it ends its occupation of Arab land and stops its oppression against the Arab population under its rule. The resistance action carried out by a lone attacker on Israel proves once again that the Arab Nation did not and will not kneel before Israel and would never capitulate.

Why the Soviets eye the Gulf

By Mark Bruzonsky and Stephen Green

NUMEROUS U.S. newspaper editorials have pointed to the Reagan administration's well-known fear of the Soviet "evil empire" as a reason for the increasing Americanisation of the war in the Gulf. Others find in the new energetic leadership of Mikhail Gorbachev an explanation for the growing Soviet involvement in the Middle East which has, in turn, aroused greater U.S. involvement in the region. Indeed, the unmistakable signs of new Soviet interest in the region are very clear. The Kremlin seems suddenly eager to play a mediating role in both the Iran-Iraq war and in the broader Arab-Israeli conflict (MEI 312).

In the latter instance, Moscow has even taken the first steps in more than 20 years to re-establish diplomatic relations with Israel in order to facilitate such a role. And in the Gulf, it was of course an offer by the Soviets to lease three tankers to Kuwait had led to Reagan's hasty offer of American refuelling in the first place. Diplomacy and showing the flag, though, are only one aspect of the new Soviet presence. Another is the ballistic missiles, advanced fighter bombers and multiple launch rockets which have arrived in Syria since 1983. For the first time in the military history of the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Soviets have supplied at least one Arab army with offensive weapons that begin to offset the overwhelming offensive power given without cost to Israel by America.

The question is why is the USSR moving to expand its influence in the Middle East and most particularly in the Gulf? Is it, as the White House keeps suggesting, even while plans for the Washington summit proceed, a matter of evil Communist designs upon the governments and countries of the region? Or is it something far more basic and easy to understand such as a desire for

The question is why is the USSR moving to expand its influence in the Middle East.

trade with the Gulf — in other words plain, legitimate self-interest? The key element in this question of Soviet motivations that has been uniformly missed by American editorial writers, and perhaps by the White House as well, is quite simple: The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, by far the world's largest oil producer, is slowly running out of oil.

Like Western Europe, Japan and the United States, the USSR will soon need to import substantial amounts of fuel to meet its energy requirements, and those of its allies. And like those other buyers, the Soviets are looking to the Gulf as the source for that fuel. The Soviet offer to lease tankers to Kuwait may thus have been primarily motivated by a desire to habituate the countries of the region to the sight of the hammer and sickle on the back end of oil tankers, for there may be hundreds and hundreds more to come.

The first significant signs of Soviet oil reserve depletion began in

1976, when the rate of gain in oil production declined below six per cent for the first time in over a decade. Western observers, primarily the CIA, noticed the decline immediately, and in the first of two very controversial reports, the CIA characterised Soviet goals for oil production levels into the 1980s as "optimistic."

Several months later, the Moscow newspaper *Soviet Industry* appeared to confirm the CIA's projections when it revealed that four of the 12 top Soviet oil producing areas were not meeting their production targets, and that in fact eight of the 12 were barely maintaining output or were already in decline. Western energy analysts, quoted in the respected *Oil and Gas Journal*, concluded that "like the U.S., it seems the Soviet Union has found most of the 'easy' oil." While production of natural gas in the Soviet Union would continue to rise in future years, oil production would begin to decline in the early 1980s, resulting in a reduction of oil exports and the badly needed foreign exchange these bring to the Soviet economy.

In the following year, 1977, the CIA produced an even more pessimistic report on Soviet oil production, projecting that in the 1980s the Soviet Union would become a "substantial" importer of oil. Other Western experts, though, noted that the CIA reports failed to take into consideration the predictable Soviet programmes aimed at energy conservation and development of alternative energy sources in reaching their conclusions. And indeed, Soviet oil production

levels — and exports — in the later 1970s and early 1980s made the CIA's projections seem premature, if not alarmist. Then came 1984, and new shortfalls. Most discouraging of all, the 1984 production decline appeared to be occurring in the youngest and most vital region for Soviet development — the giant fields in Tyumen in western Siberia.

A controversy arose within the Kremlin in 1984, putting the Soviet oil ministry against the ministry of geology and senior Communist Party officials. The oil ministry, contending that the vast majority of western Siberia's future oil discoveries would be small and uneconomical to exploit, and pointing to rapidly increasing costs for oil extraction in recent years, argued strongly for a formal reduction in Soviet oil production goals. When the final production figures were in for 1984, the oil ministry was proved right. The Soviet Union had suffered its first absolute production decline in 40 years. The result was a major push by the Kremlin to make oil production in western Siberia more efficient. Said the Moscow newspaper *Isvestia*: "Tyumen's oil surplus has disappeared and the wells no longer flow without assistance. We must now 'work' the deposits in the full sense of the word." The full significance of this development can be understood when one considers that western Siberia accounts for two-thirds of the total Soviet flow.

Meeting in Moscow in early 1986, the USSR's 27th Communist Party congress agreed to formally reduce the country's oil

production targets for 1990. The oil ministry — and the CIA report ten years earlier — had been vindicated. Then, just a few months later, the Chernobyl catastrophe starkly demonstrated to the Kremlin the hidden costs and dangers of nuclear energy.

The CIA projected that in the 1980s the Soviet Union would become a "substantial" importer of oil.

production and the consequent importance of projected diminution of fossil fuel production levels.

It is hardly surprising that the Soviets are looking to the Gulf, the region that has 55 per cent of the world's proven oil reserves, for their own future supplies. The greater dilemma for the Soviets, however, is that their future need to import oil raises the question of how are they going to pay for it. Currently, it is precisely Soviet fuel exports that generate much of the foreign exchange which the country carefully rationed. When energy is being imported rather than exported, it's obvious the Soviets simply aren't going to have the billions in hard foreign currencies to pay the bill. Nor is it likely that the Gulf countries will be eager for payment in rubles.

The USSR has other ways, however, to pay for future fuel requirements, it can trade arms for oil. And if the Syrian experience is an indicator, which we think it is, Soviet leaders are now willing to make available modern

offensive and defensive arms which, with few exceptions, they have been unwilling to send to the Middle East in the past. Furthermore, these developments are occurring at a time when, a) the governments of the region are facing military and political threat from Iran and are desperately seeking the modern defensive arms with which to defend themselves, and, b) given the unreserved commitment of the Reagan administration and the American Congress to Israel, the U.S. government is predictably going to refuse to be the supplier of those arms.

Where does Washington think the Gulf states are going to turn for their arms? Whether the Americans like it or not, the Soviet Union and the Gulf States have a new, strong, growing consonance of interests. It is mutual. It is natural. And as we shall soon see — cultural and political differences notwithstanding — the outcome will be a dramatically increased Soviet presence in the Gulf.

Oil for arms may become the formula for a basic strategic realignment with historic consequences — Middle East International, London.

Mark Bruzonsky is the author of *Security in the Middle East* (Westview Press, October 1987). Stephen Green is the author of *Taking Sides: America's secret relations with a militant Israel* (William Morrow, U.S.A. Faber and Faber, U.K., 1984). His forthcoming book is *Living by the Sword* (Amarna Press U.S.A. Faber and Faber U.K.).

Raid sparks questions, calls for revenge in Israel

By Paul Taylor

Reuter

TEL AVIV — A daring raid by a Palestinian fighter in a hang-glider who killed six Israeli soldiers at an army camp stunned Israelis on Thursday, sparking embarrassed questions about northern border defences and calls for revenge.

Military analysts said Israel was likely to retaliate swiftly, probably with an air raid on Palestinian targets in Lebanon. But they ruled out a major ground operation.

Israeli journalists and members of the public, shocked by the highest death toll in a raid into Israel since 1978, asked how at least two motorised hang-gliders managed to fly over Israel's self-declared "security zone" without being shot down.

Army radio played solemn music and broadcast frequent news flashes, including interviews with grief-stricken soldiers and senior military commanders.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin told reporters after an inner cabinet meeting that the gliders were spotted by Israeli front-line forces in Lebanon and an investigation was under way into how the fighter was able to enter an army base and cause so many casualties, "something we cannot accept as possible."

Chief of staff Dan Shomron sought to play down suggestions of a blunder.

"This action was truly characteristic of a suicide attack. With small aircraft, it is hard to identify them at night. Such actions have failed in the past," he said after touring the area.

Military sources said the gliders were detected by at least three military units in the eight km (five mile) wide border buffer zone but Cobra helicopter gunships that scrambled to intercept them failed to make contact.

"It was a flashah," one source said, using an Arabic word for a foul-up that has passed into Israeli slang.

The hours of confusion that followed the 10-minute gunbattle dented the Israeli security forces' reputation for efficiency.

A foreign volunteer worker at a kibbutz (collective farm) miles away was shot and wounded accidentally by para-military border police who mistook him for a Palestinian fighter.

Rabin said the "security zone" Israel established in Lebanon had greatly reduced cross-border attacks. The zone was set up in 1985 when Israel withdrew most of the occupation forces that invaded three years earlier to drive out Palestinian fighters.

The Israeli army says it has killed 200 fighters in the zone in the last year, while losing only half a dozen of its own men. Casualties among the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia, which patrols the zone, have been higher.

Two Palestinian gunmen on foot penetrated Israel's border, guarded by minefields and elec-

tronic fences, near the frontier settlement of Manara last April and killed two Israeli soldiers before being shot dead.

But all efforts to launch raids into Israel by air and sea have been thwarted since 1978, when Lebanese gunmen from Lebanon seized a bus on the Tel Aviv-Haifa coastal highway, killing 33 people and wounding 82.

The latest raid sparked calls for revenge from right-wing politicians and the public, and fears of retaliation among Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Parliamentarian Meir Cohen-Avidor of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's Likud Bloc urged Rabin "to order army commanders to enact the toughest policy to halt all terrorist activities, and not to take legal action against soldiers and civilians who try to defend themselves" — an apparent reference to Israeli vigilante attacks on Palestinians.

"This means we have to hit the terrorist harder and harder. They should bomb half of Lebanon," said Yehuda Dayan, a Tel Aviv computer engineer.

Rabin appeared to hint at retaliation when he was asked by reporters after the cabinet meeting how Israel would respond to the raid.

"You don't expect me to tell you what Israel will do," he reported. "We have a prolonged war and struggle against terrorists, wherever they are."

Iran arms embargo to dominate superpower summit

By Stephen Jukes

Reuter

BAHRAIN — When President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev flip their summit agenda to the section marked Gulf war, one question will dominate debate — can Moscow be persuaded to drop its objections to an Iran arms embargo.

As Tehran's revolutionary guards ambush ships seemingly at will in the Gulf and Iraqi Mirage pilots fly daily raids against Iranian tankers, diplomats believe a U.N. peace initiative is more bogged down than at any time since its launch in July.

And to the dismay of moderate Gulf states threatened by the war on their doorstep, the region appears to have become a new spawning ring for the superpowers, supplanting Afghanistan.

"The only way to revive the U.N. initiative is for the Security Council to impose an arms embargo against Iran — and Moscow is blocking that," said one Gulf-based Western diplomat.

But hopes that the stalemate can be broken at the December 7-10 superpower summit are slim and diplomats fear Moscow is exploiting tension between the United States and Iran in the Gulf for strategic gain.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz added to pessimism last week when, after talks with his Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze, he said Moscow was unwilling to back an embargo.

"It is clear that the Soviets are not ready to go with us on that at this point," Shultz told a Geneva news conference.

The Gulf states, which support Iraq and have publicly condemned Tehran for its refusal to accept the U.N. ceasefire order, are rapidly losing patience with the U.S. failure to push through an arms embargo, diplomats said.

And Moscow, which earlier this year appeared to be establishing a firm diplomatic foothold in the Gulf region, is beginning to incur the disapproval of states such as Kuwait.

Kuwait turned to Moscow a year ago to seek protection for its oil tankers from Iranian attack, but after a short honeymoon, the state-controlled press is accusing Moscow of stalling the U.N. deal and leaning too far towards Tehran.

The Kuwaiti daily *Al Rai* Al Aam said in an editorial on Thursday: "Given the lack of Soviet desire to decrease tension and its desire for political and strategic parity with the United States, Moscow is standing with Iran to support its war effort and its political movements in the Security Council to abort the (U.N.) resolution."

Iran for its part tars both Washington and Moscow with more or less the same brush — labelling one the Great Satan and the other the Little Satan — and has been widely accused of playing for time to prepare for another ground offensive against Iraq.

Among the five permanent

members of the U.N. Security Council, Britain backs the U.S. drive for an arms embargo, while France and China — since its public declaration it will not sell Silkorm missiles to Iran — are also expected to agree.

But Moscow has consistently argued that U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has not exhausted possibilities for negotiation between Iran and Iraq. He is due to meet an Iranian emissary in New York this week.

Superpower rivalry in the Gulf took a new twist early this year when Moscow sealed a deal with Kuwait to lease its three tankers to carry the emirate's oil under Soviet navy protection.

That in turn prompted the United States to allow Kuwaiti tankers to fly the American flag under escort of American warships. The huge Western naval build-up in the Gulf had begun.

Moscow had already been building up alliances in the Gulf, traditionally a region with close political and military ties to the United States and Britain.

Diplomats said the Soviet Union now has more influence in the Middle East, and over the Arab-Israeli dispute, than at any time since its military advisers were expelled from Egypt in 1972.

This year it sought favour with staunchly anti-Communist Saudi Arabia by inviting Oil Minister Hisham Nazer to Moscow, it rescheduled \$3 billion of Egypt's military debt and has steadily built up diplomatic representation in the Gulf.

The drive highlights a Soviet

desire to be involved in the Middle East "peace process" to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict, another question expected to figure on the summit agenda.

The way in for Moscow is through its permanent membership of the U.N. Security Council, which now appears the most likely sponsor of a long-awaited international peace conference on the Middle East.

Diplomats say its lack of relations with Israel is one obstacle but the most formidable remains the divisions within the Israeli government on whether to attend.

Moscow has also been leaning towards Tehran, holding out the possibility of a deal allowing Iran to export oil and gas through the Caspian Sea which would avoid the Gulf war zone.

"Moscow's ability to talk to both Iran and Iraq puts it in the position of peacemaker," said one diplomat.

But the Soviet Union does appear keen to extricate itself from the nine-year-old guerrilla war in Afghanistan which has led to heavy Soviet casualties and cost it support in the Third World. Washington, in turn, has been embarrassed by U.S. Stinger missiles it supplied to rebels falling into Iranian hands.

U.N.-sponsored indirect talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan are deadlocked over timing of a pull-out of an estimated 115,000 Soviet troops, with Kabul arguing for 16 months and Pakistan — with about three million refugees — looking for eight months.

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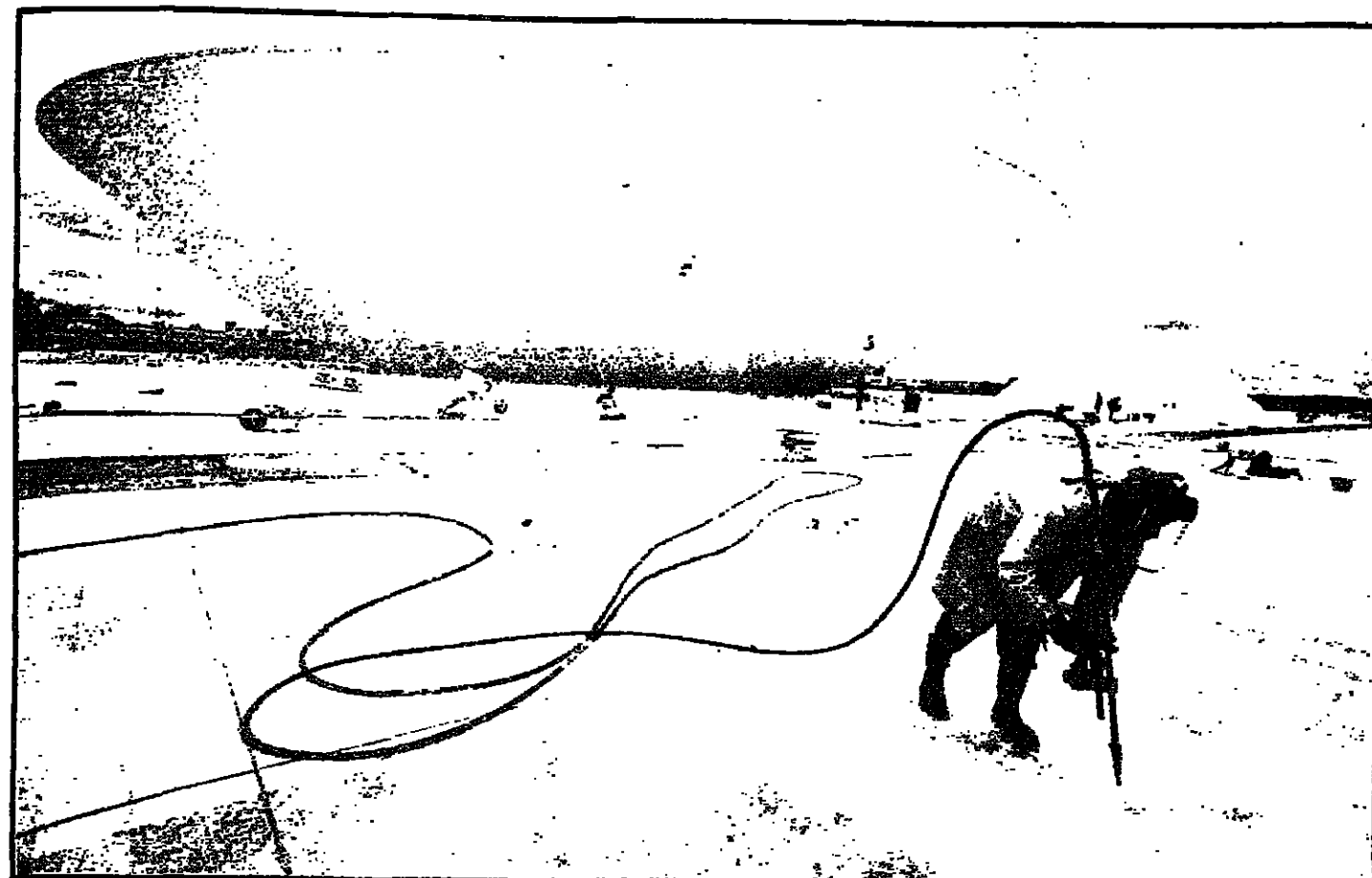
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Workmen refurbish the marble terrace outside the capitol complex in Brasilia, capital city of Brazil. The South American nation moved its seat of government to the newly created city deep in Brazil's interior from Rio de Janeiro not long after construction began in 1957. Now

neighbouring Argentina plans to follow suit, with Viedma, a small city in lightly populated Patagonia, as the capital to replace overpopulated Buenos Aires.

Moving seat of government not always a capital idea

By Boris Weintraub
National Geographic

WASHINGTON — Over the next few years, if everything goes according to plan, Argentina will begin to move its capital from Buenos Aires to the virtually unknown city of Viedma. Then, if history is any guide, a number of things will happen:

— There will be significant cost overruns and lengthy delays in construction.

— Government officials, foreign embassies, cultural institutions, and ordinary citizens will resist the move, protesting that the new capital is too far away from anything that makes life worth living.

— The government will move anyway, and critics will then complain that the new capital, the result of careful planning, is too sterile and artificial.

— After 50 or 100 years, everyone will accept Viedma as the capital and point to it with pride as a national symbol. No one will remember what all the fuss was about.

Nations create new capitals for many reasons: Independence, as in the case of the United States; compromise, which is why Australia's capital is Canberra, not Sydney or Melbourne; a desire to open vacant land for settlement, as Brazil did in building Brasilia; a leader's wish to modernise his nation, which is why Peter the Great built St. Petersburg, now Leningrad; and even the need to avoid hurricanes, the reason British Honduras, now Belize, built Belmopan.

Argentine President Raul Alfonsín started his nation April

15, 1986, with a speech designating Viedma and its sister city across the Rio Negro, Carmen de Patagones, as the new capital. Their combined population is about 50,000, far from the 10.7 million — a third of the nation's population — who live in the Buenos Aires metropolitan area.

It wasn't the idea of moving the capital that was so startling. Such a move had been considered since the 19th century, and there is general agreement that Buenos Aires plays far too dominant a role in Argentine life.

But few expected Alfonsín to choose a site in Patagonia, which has a fourth of the nation's land but only 3 per cent of its population. Nor did anyone expect him to announce that he anticipated such speedy action that the next Argentine president could be inaugurated in Viedma, 495 miles south of Buenos Aires, in 1989.

Argentine legislators have supported Alfonsín. But no one is entirely certain how a debt-racked nation will come up with the estimated \$2 billion it will cost to establish a new Federal District that may have half a million residents by 1995.

Mario del Carril, press spokesman for the Argentine embassy here, urges that the cost be looked upon as the price for developing the Patagonian frontier, not just as the expense of building a new capital. But he admits that a 1989 inauguration date in Viedma is "elastic," and would be symbolic in any event.

Alfonsín's speech encouraged Argentines to look for guidance to West Germany's selection of Bonn as a capital, rather than to

neighbouring Brazil's establishment of the new central capital city of Brasilia.

Like Argentina, Brazil had long talked of building an inland capital. The country's first constitution, adopted after independence in 1822, called for one.

But Rio de Janeiro remained the capital until Juscelino Kubitschek, campaigning for the presidency in 1956, pledged to build the new city. A plan was developed for a site 578 miles north-west of Rio. Construction began in 1957, and by the time Kubitschek's successor was inaugurated in Brasilia in 1960, its population was 100,000.

Construction continued even through the years of military rule that followed. Despite protests about the sterility of the central city and the emergence of slum-like satellite cities, the Federal District has continued to grow. The population is now estimated at 1.6 million and is still rising.

In the new United States, the Founding Fathers fought bitterly about where the capital should be. The first Congress almost chose Germantown, Pa., and a Massachusetts congressman spoke words that have been echoed by many who have come to Washington, D.C.:

"It is the opinion of all the Eastern States that the climate of the Potomac is not only unhealthy, but destructive to northern constitutions. Vast numbers of eastern adventurers have gone to the Southern States, and all have found their graves there."

Weather played a more important role in establishing a new capital for the Central American nation of Belize. After Hurricane

Hattie destroyed three-quarters of the old capital of Belize City in 1961, killing more than 260 people. British Honduras built the new city of Belmopan 40 miles inland. The government moved in 1970, and Belmopan today has about 5,000 residents.

British authorities also were responsible for building New Delhi and making it the capital of their Indian empire, choosing a site that had been home to eight previous capitals over 3,000 years. True to form, the site was chosen in 1911, but not until 1929 did it replace Calcutta as the seat of government.

Canberra, whose isolated site 153 miles from Sydney was selected in 1912 — was called it "the world's best-lighted sheep station" — took 15 years to become Australia's capital. A permanent home for its parliament is only now being built.

Capital-creation is a serious act. The Pakistani commission that in 1960 chose the site for what became Islamabad used typically high-flown language to explain itself:

"The capital of a country is not merely another city, it is a leader among cities. It is a symbol of our hopes. It is a mirror of our desires. It is the heart and soul of the nation."

If that's the case, some nations have divided hearts and souls. Bolivia, for example, has an administrative capital at La Paz and a separate legal and judicial capital at Sucre. And South Africa goes it one better: It has a legislative capital at Cape Town, an administrative capital at Pretoria, and a judicial capital at Bloemfontein.

Britons follow royal family into alternative cures

By John Parker
Reuter

LONDON — The attractive young woman led the way into a white room.

"Take your shoes and socks off and lie down," she said, closing the blinds. "Now, just relax."

Then she turned on music that sounded like a waterfall, rubbed powder into her hands and began to massage my feet.

This is reflexology, a so-called "alternative" medical treatment. Scorned by most doctors, alternative medicine is nonetheless growing and becoming more respectable in Britain.

Even Prince Charles, the heir to the throne, has said he uses alternative medicine and both Queen Elizabeth and her mother favour some aspects. More and more Britons are sidestepping the National Health Service (NHS) to give it a try.

Reflexologists believe organs of the body are mirrored in the feet, and diseases in those organs can be found and cured by foot massage.

"I can tell your liver is not too healthy," said the reflexologist, Karen Benson, pressing a tender spot on a toe.

Benson works at the new Westminster Natural Health Centre, a hospital-clean converted house in an expensive area of London offering about 15 of the more common alternative treatments.

Nobody knows exactly how many alternative treatments are available in Britain today. There are few controls, so there may be as many treatments as there are beliefs about the workings of the human body. They range from the quasi-medical to the seemingly weird.

Prince Charles argues that alternative medicine is good because it is holistic — that is, it tries to treat the whole body. Practitioners give patients more time than doctors do, and patients are encouraged to help themselves to better health.

"By concentrating on smaller and smaller fragments of the body, modern medicine perhaps loses sight of the patient as a whole being," Prince Charles told doctors in 1982.

Since then alternative medicine has grown quickly. A 1986 survey of 28,000 people by the consumer magazine *Which?* found that one in seven had consulted an alternative practitioner in the previous 12 months. Of those who had done so, 82 per cent said they were cured or improved.

In 1983, opening an alternative medicine centre for cancer sufferers in Bristol, England, Prince Charles said alternative medicine represented an invisible aspect of the universe.

"It nevertheless cries out for us to keep our minds open as possible and not to dismiss it as mere hocus pocus," he said.

For some people, however, the ideas behind the remedies can take some getting used to.

Followers of the Bach Flower Remedies, for instance, believe certain flower petals give off healing vibrations that can help cure negative mental states such as indecisiveness.

Iridology, begun a century ago in Hungary, is based on the belief that diseases can be seen in the eyes. Faith healers believe the mind can cure diseases of the body.

Traditional acupuncturists, followers of the ancient Chinese art of sticking needles into people, believe the body's organs have humours, or moods, which respond to stimulation.

Osteopaths and chiropractors claim to cure disease through manipulation, chiefly of the spine. Homeopaths believe a small quantity of a substance that would cause similar symptoms can cure a disease. The list goes on.

These treatments are not usually available on the NHS, and the only insurance policy available covers only a few of the more respectable treatments.

There are no standard prices, but alternative treatments are usually cheaper than private conventional medicine because they use no modern drugs or surgery.

Following Prince Charles's criticisms the British Medical Association, the Doctors' Union, set

up a working group.

It reported in 1986 that only osteopathy, chiropractic and some forms of acupuncture had any scientific basis, and even they were unscientific in approach. Most alternative treatments were useless, and occasionally dangerous, quackery.

The report said problems in the NHS, such as long waiting lists, had partly caused the drift to alternatives. But the most important cause was a change in patients' attitudes.

"People expect instant cures and when they don't get them they go looking elsewhere," professor James Payne, the chairman of the working group, told Reuters.

He said the medical profession would not accept alternative cures until they could be proved, scientifically, to work.

But alternative practitioners ask, how can you measure how a person feels or the link between body and mind?

Joanna Solan, the ex-nurse who began the Westminster Centre, said the medical profession had also, at least partly, missed the point.

"It doesn't matter if patients go out and chew grass and feel better, so long as they feel better," she said.

"Anything that alleviates symptoms on a long-term basis, I don't think can be called quackery."

The heart of the sex difference

By Gina Kolata

MEN AND WOMEN are different at heart, literally.

Medical scientists are both perplexed and intrigued by a growing body of evidence that shows differences in the way women and men develop heart disease. The findings suggest there may be important biological distinctions between the sexes in the functioning and development of the heart and cardiovascular system.

The distinctions need to be understood, experts say, because they may provide new insights into the causes and treatment of heart disease in both sexes.

So far, virtually all studies of methods to prevent or treat heart disease have been done in men, with the results assumed to apply to women. This is partly because the emphasis has been on reducing the rate of heart attacks among the middle-aged, and most middle-aged heart attack victims are men. But later in life heart attacks are the leading cause of death in women too; and some researchers are now looking into the aspects of heart disease that are unique to women.

The experts all stress that women should continue to follow established guidelines for heart disease prevention, such as avoiding smoking and high-fat diets and curbing high blood pressure. "There certainly are differences," said Dr. Peter Frommer, deputy director of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, who characterised the new evidence as "fascinating leads."

Earlier this month researchers at a meeting of the American Heart Association, in Anaheim, California, reported that women who have had children tend to have wider coronary arteries, which may help explain their protection from early heart attacks. Others at the meeting reported a study of monkeys indicating another difference: On a high-fat diet, female monkeys tend to produce more high-density lipoproteins, HDL, which carry cholesterol away from blood vessels, than male monkeys do.

Another recent finding highlights the inadequacy of drawing conclusions about women from studies of men. Researchers found that a high level of fats called triglycerides by itself portends heart disease in women.

even in the absence of high cholesterol levels. This is not true of men.

The most obvious difference is that women tend to develop coronary heart disease far later in life than men. Heart disease becomes the No. 1 killer of women in their mid-60s, but is the No. 1 killer of men at the age of 39. That disparity points to the long-assumed protection offered to premenopausal women by their hormones.

Scientists now believe it may be too simplistic to expect the hormone estrogen alone to explain differences in heart disease.

Dr. Antonio Gotto, of the Baylor College of Medicine, in Houston believes there are cellular and biochemical differences in female blood vessels. "I feel confident that female blood vessels have some inherent protection," he said.

Dr. Gotto said. He speculated that female blood vessels may be better able to repair early damage from high blood pressure, for example, preventing the development of artery-clogging plaques.

Women have different symptoms of heart disease than men. Women often have pains on and off for a long time before they have a heart attack; in men, chest pains are more often a sign that a heart attack has begun.

Women who have a heart attack are twice as likely as men to die within 60 days.

Diabetes seems to eliminate the protection accorded women in their earlier years, whereas it seems to have less effect on men.

Contributing to the sense of mystery is the finding that women do only half as well as men in bypass surgery. Although a relatively simple reason is suggested — women have smaller hearts, more difficult to operate on, and they tend to come into the operation older and sicker than men do — not everyone is convinced that this is the whole story.

The aim of the heart researchers is not just to improve the prevention and treatment of heart disease in older women but to learn what protects younger women from heart disease, and perhaps to use the knowledge to help men.

Dr. William Castelli, director of a long-range heart study in Framingham, Massachusetts, bemoaned the lack of attention being given to heart disease in women.



women. "Their signs and symptoms are not being taken seriously because of the myth that women don't get heart attacks," he said.

The Framingham study is a major source of data on women and heart disease because it follows both men and women throughout their lives, correlating such factors as blood chemistry and lifestyle with the incidence of heart disease. Two similar federally funded studies, in Tecumseh, Michigan, and Evans County, Georgia, and a study in Rancho Bernardo, near San Diego, are among the few to include women.

Framingham and Evans County data indicate women are at particular risk of heart disease if they have high levels of triglycerides in their blood, said Dr. Millicent Higgins, of the heart institute. In men, according to Dr. Castelli, triglycerides do not predict heart disease risk independently of other factors, such as blood cholesterol.

"Triglyceride," Dr. Castelli said, "is the chemical name for what most of us think of as fat. Corn oil is pure triglyceride." He explained that triglycerides in the blood are converted by the body to low-density lipoproteins, or LDL, which carry cholesterol to the blood vessels, and may contribute to artery-blocking plaques in other ways, too. He said he did not know why triglycerides should be so much more dangerous in women than in men, and added that the importance of triglycerides levels is usually overlooked in women.

Framingham and Rancho Bernardo data also point to the importance of diabetes as a risk factor for women. As far as heart

disease goes, Dr. Castelli said, "women with diabetes are no longer like women. They are like men."

And the Framingham data indicate that "there are different initial symptoms of heart disease in men and women," he said. Women tend to have chest pains or a feeling of pressure in the chest as their first sign, whereas men tend to have heart attacks.

Of 1,600 women studied in Framingham, only 6 had heart attacks before menopause, Dr. Castelli said. Although it is often assumed that female sex hormones are what protect premenopausal women against heart attacks, experts say the exact link has never been firmly established.

"It is very attractive to think that female sex hormones are good for you and male sex hormones are bad for you, but, in point of fact, the data are mixed," said Dr. Elizabeth Barrett-Connor of the University of California at San Diego. "Most of us don't believe it anymore."

In support of estrogen's purported beneficial effects are several reports indicating that women who take estrogen supplements after menopause are less likely to have heart attacks. But the Framingham data did not show a protective effect and there are many unanswered questions.

The heart institute will soon begin a study of female hormones and heart disease. The study will involve about 1,000 post-menopausal women who will take various combinations of estrogen and another female sex hormone, progesterone.

One hypothesis is that estrogen protects against heart disease by increasing the concentrations of the beneficial HDLs and decreasing the concentrations of harmful LDLs. But there is a trade-off, said Dr. Basil Rifkind, of the heart institute. Estrogen also increases the tendency of blood to clot, which in itself can increase the chances of a heart attack.

In the late 1960s, the heart institute studied the use of estrogen supplements in men and concluded not only that the men were not protected against heart disease but that they may have had an even higher death rate from blood clots when they took the female hormone — The New York Times.

Dubbing films is a faceless but lucrative skill in West Germany

By Mark Heinrich
Reuter

BONN — Ekkehardt Belle plays everything from secret agents to cowboys in scores of foreign films a year. But German film fans don't know his name and have no idea what he looks like.

His voice, however, might sound familiar.

Belle, 33, specialises in the art of dubbing the original dialogue of a foreign movie into the native tongue. He and others earn big money for their anonymous skill.

A German dubber can play a cowboy today, an urban killer tomorrow. James Bond a week later. A major movie can be dubbed in two days.

"The challenge is playing a colourful role without the help of your body, only your voice," Belle says. "It doesn't matter to us if no one asks for our autographs in the street."

The West German dubbers strive for a truth in translation which reflects the culture's mania for rote precision.

Humphrey Bogart's distorted "s" pronunciations come out just as mushy in the dubbed version of "The Maltese Falcon." The broken English of Hispanic cabbies in a New York crime movie is rendered into the broken German typical of a Spanish guest-worker in this country.

By the same token, the literally minded Germans avoid turning a foreign personality role into "herr" or "frau" somebody. It stays "Mr. Bond" or "Mrs. Robinson."

But German dubbing sometimes goes to incongruous lengths, as far as foreigners in this country are concerned.

"They've even dubbed music. In (U.S.-made) 'Cat Ballou,' they had Nat King Cole singing in German, which of course was a travesty," says Jack Kindred, West German correspondent for Variety, the American entertainment magazine.

In the pop festival film "Woodstock," bands belt out their numbers and talk up the crowd in the original English, but the fans give interviews in German.

In "High Society," Bing Crosby croons sweetly in English but talks to co-star Grace Kelly in guttural German.

Kindred, like other foreigners here, despairs at the dubbing of atmospheric films like Woody Allen's comedies of Manhattan manners "because there's no way of translating the many nuances in them."

Some English-speaking residents in Bonn drive three hours to Brussels for a weekend of their favourite movies in the original form with French and Dutch subtitles.

Dubbing industry leaders acknowledge the limits of the art but say the German movie audience won't accept anything else.

"It probably has something to do with the Germans' preference for precision. They don't want subtitles to distract their attention from the picture," says Rainer Brandt, head of a major dubbing studio in West Berlin.

In contrast to other major movie markets like France, Scandinavia, The Netherlands, Switzerland and the United States, dubbing foreign films is unknown in West Germany.

"A German wants to absorb (the film) like he would have the original version if he was fluent in English. Dubbing's taken root in our culture. If a film were offered with subtitles, there'd be absolutely no business," Brandt says.

The dubbing tradition thrives in part because West Germany's domestic film industry is so small. About two-thirds of movies premiered in 1986 were imported, mainly American.

Dubbing, or *synchronisierung* as it's known here, is done in many other countries but experts say the practice is most ambitious and ubiquitous in West Germany, even bigger than the dubbing industries in Mexico, aimed at much of Latin America.

Some 1,000 foreign movies and television series, from "Passage

to India" to "Dallas" to southern California pornography, are dubbed yearly in West Germany by about 30 production companies with 80 studios.

Belle, whose voice has been heard as James Bond and American actors like Richard Gere and Mickey Rourke, describes a craft requiring the versatility and stamina of stage acting.

"You first get a translated script from the studio. Then you watch the movie in the original to gauge where the actor pauses, takes a breath, raises his voice and so on," he says.

"We may watch the movie three or four times because you have to memorise the sequences and translation."

Top dubbing specialists, some of them also regular actors and others who do nothing but stand in for foreign voices, command up to 7.50 marks (\$4.50) per take of dialogue, with total takes per film ranging from 450 to 1,200. So dubbers can make thousands of marks (dollars) for a couple of days work.

"Even an episode of Dalls can have 300-400 takes (per character role), because there's little action but lots of talk. The best people work every day and they live like kings from their craft," says Michael Haacke, chairman of the Munich-based Film und Fernseh Synchron, a top dubbing concern.

Panic buttons are a growth industry in South Africa

By Arik Bachar
Reuter

JOHANNESBURG — More and more households in affluent whites-only suburbs of Johannesburg are enlisting private security firms to guard against a crime wave which has stretched police to the limit.

With police already busy keeping the lid on an anti-apartheid violence the private security industry is mushrooming and many homes in Johannesburg are being connected to "panic systems" and displaying signs warning criminals to stay away.

"The high wall syndrome is a new thing in South Africa," said John Sewell, marketing manager of a security firm with 700 subscribers in Johannesburg. "The security business is one of the top growth industries at present."

The most popular security device is the panic button — in fact several buttons installed throughout the house which, when pressed, summon an armed patrol.

Industry experts say intensified crime in recent years, chronicled by newspapers in daily accounts of murders, rapes and robberies which often cut across race lines, has boosted demand for their services.

For a monthly fee, most security companies promise that a reaction unit of two armed men will respond to a panic call within five minutes of the button being pressed.

Sewell, who said at least 7,000 panic systems have been installed in Johannesburg, said most panic calls came from women alone at home. Each subscriber on average presses a button once every three months and his men have

made a handful of arrests.

Many in the dominant and wealthy white minority live in single-family houses set in large gardens. Guard dogs are common and gun ownership is prevalent.

Political violence over the past three years has been blamed partly in South Africa's worst post-war recession and Sewell said black township unrest, which has claimed over 2,500 lives since 1984, has given the industry a fillip.

Suburbs around Johannesburg's Alexandra township, an island of black poverty in the midst of opulent white neighbourhoods, were the first to seek extra protection when the township erupted in violence last year.

Sewell said the industry's turnover was expected to top 120 million rand (\$60 million) in

1987, compared with 25 million rand (\$12.5 million) five years ago.

Spokesman for the police, who have been at the forefront of the fight against township unrest, said the force welcomed anyone fighting crime within the law.

"There are simply not enough police to go around," he said, citing statistics on the rise in crime.

In the year to June 1986, 9,665 people were murdered in a nation of 30 million, compared with 8,959 during the previous year. The number of robberies rose from 39,302 to 45,935 while reported rapes declined from 16,085 to 14,975.

There was a sharp increase in the number of house break-ins and car thefts and insurance premiums have shot up since political unrest began in 1984.

Lora retains WBC bantamweight crown

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (R) — Unbeaten World Boxing Council (WBC) bantamweight champion Miguel "Happy" Lora, successfully defended his title for the sixth time with a unanimous 12-round decision over Ray Minus on Friday night.

Lora, who raised his record to 28 wins, put Minus on the canvas with a straight right hand in the sixth round and controlled the fight from then on.

Antonio Marino of Venezuela scored the fight 118-110 in favour of Lora. Anselino Escobedo of Mexico scored it 120-115 and Tony Castellano of Las Vegas had it 117-110.

Lora, a native of Monteria, Colombia, who now fights out of Miami, won the title in August 1985 from Mexican Daniel Zaragoza. Minus, the Bahamian and

British Commonwealth champion, was Lora's sparring partner for that fight and a title defence that followed.

"What Ray didn't realise is that I'm a lot different in the ring than I am sparring in the gym," the 26-year-old champion said. "But I tell you, this fight was harder than the rest of my title fights. Not because he hurt me, but because his style made me uncomfortable."

Lora controlled the bout through the first three rounds, then Minus began to score with

right hands and won the following two rounds.

The sixth round knockdown of Minus put Lora back in control. "I was happy with my performance but not the decision," said the 21-year-old Minus, of Nassau. "I think I was the master boxer. I knew I had to score with two times as many punches against the champion."

"And I think I did. I don't think one knockdown should win a fight for a man."

The loss dropped Minus' record to 22-4-1.

As for the victory, Lora sees it as the springboard to a bout to unify a bantamweight title with WBA champion Wilfredo Vazquez, whom Lora has previously beaten.

Liverpool delivers Venables their 1st crash

LONDON (R) — Liverpool dashed Terry Venables' hopes of a victorious return to English soccer when they beat his 10-man Tottenham team 2-0 on Saturday to move five points clear of Arsenal at the top of the First Division.

Midfielder Steve McMahon made the decisive breakthrough in a high-speed game when he scored after 62 minutes. Craig Johnston added a second 10 minutes from time.

The result left Tottenham's

biggest crowd of the season, 47,500, with little to celebrate apart from the unexpected defeat of their north London rivals Arsenal who were beaten 2-0 at Watford.

But Arsenal stayed second behind Liverpool, who have a game in hand, thanks to the failures of all the challengers in the chasing pack.

Third-placed Queen's Park Rangers were beaten 3-1 at struggling Sheffield Wednesday, fourth-placed Nottingham

Forest's fixture against Luton was postponed because of fog. Everton drew 0-0 at home with Oxford and Chelsea were held to a 1-1 draw by Wimbledon.

Tottenham, under Venables' control for the first time since he was appointed as David Pleat's successor in the manager's office, were reduced to 10 men when England midfielder Steve Hodge was sent off in the 17th minute.

Hodge was dismissed by referee Ian Burrett for elbowing Irish International midfielder Ray Houghton in the face.

Swiss skiers seek fresh records

MILAN, Italy (AP) — Switzerland, proud of recent triumphs and eager still for glory, is chasing after more Alpine skiing records in the upcoming Olympic season.

Pirmin Zurbriggen, the 24-year-old all-rounder from Saas-Almagell who captured four World Cup titles last season and four medals in the 1987 world championships at Crans Montana, is in the running for his third World Cup overall success and for an unprecedented fourth gold medal at the Olympic Games in Calgary, Canada, in February.

Michela Figini, the youngest Olympic champion in Sarajevo in 1984, can become the first skier ever to win two Olympic gold medals in the same event — the downhill — within four years.

Her teammate Maria Walliser, who tied Zurbriggen with four medals at Crans Montana, could take her third consecutive World Cup overall title and a triple gold in Calgary.

A record of three Olympic golds was set by Austrian Toni Sailer and Frenchman Jean Claude Killy in 1956 and 1968, respectively.

Zurbriggen, and possibly Walliser, can do better taking advantage of two new Olympic disciplines — the super-G and the combined — which have raised the number of possible Olympic Alpine golds to five.

Zurbriggen, a shy, determined athlete, did not shake off the label of favourite as he got ready for the Italian resort of Sestriere, where the opening race of the men's World Cup is scheduled for Friday.

"I am going to take one race after another and ski aggressively, as I did last season. I am considering the future with a strong serenity and I will be

happy with any Olympic medal," he said.

He added that his teammates Peter Mueller and Joel Gaspoz, Austrian-born Marc Girardelli of Luxembourg, West German Markus Wasmeier and slalom veterans Bojan Krizaj of Yugoslavia and Ingemar Stenmark of Sweden looked like the toughest rivals.

Mueller, who beat Zurbriggen for the world downhill title in this year's World Championships, called preparing for the Olympic season "my main goal of the season."

He led opponents by nearly two seconds in a pre-Olympic event in Canada earlier this year.

"I want to win a race as soon as I can this season to prove that I am already at the top and that my materials (skis and boots) are good."

Gaspoz, 25, considered the best giant slalom specialist of the two past seasons even though he won no important title, is anxious to dispel the reputation of being a loser in big events.

Supervising Switzerland's try for glory once more is Karl Frehner, a coach born in Austria. Frehner, known for his stern methods and his longing for perfection, took the Swiss team to Argentina this summer, when it is winter there.

"Summer training in winter

conditions is essential. I didn't believe they could have trained harder than the previous year. They did it."

Both the men's and women's national teams in Switzerland, where about one-third the population are able skiers, have built up their winning reputation in great part thanks to a tight organisation and a technical staff with little turnover.

"It's important to have the same coaches and a steady technical direction for consecutive years. I believe this has played an important role in our winning streak," Walliser said.

In a telephone interview she said she and her teammates trained diligently during the summer.

"We work hard as usual because past wins are behind us and we must look forward to new successes."

Her toughest rivals in the World Cup and the Olympics will be Figini, Corinne Schmidhauser, world giant slalom champion Vreni Schneider and Brigitte Oertli. Heidi Zurbriggen, the younger sister of Pirmin, has the makings of a downhill star.

The Swiss team remains by far the strongest of the field, even though it will miss the slalom talents of Erika Hess, who decided to retire after 10 years and five world championship titles.

UEFA lifts ban against Apol Nicosia

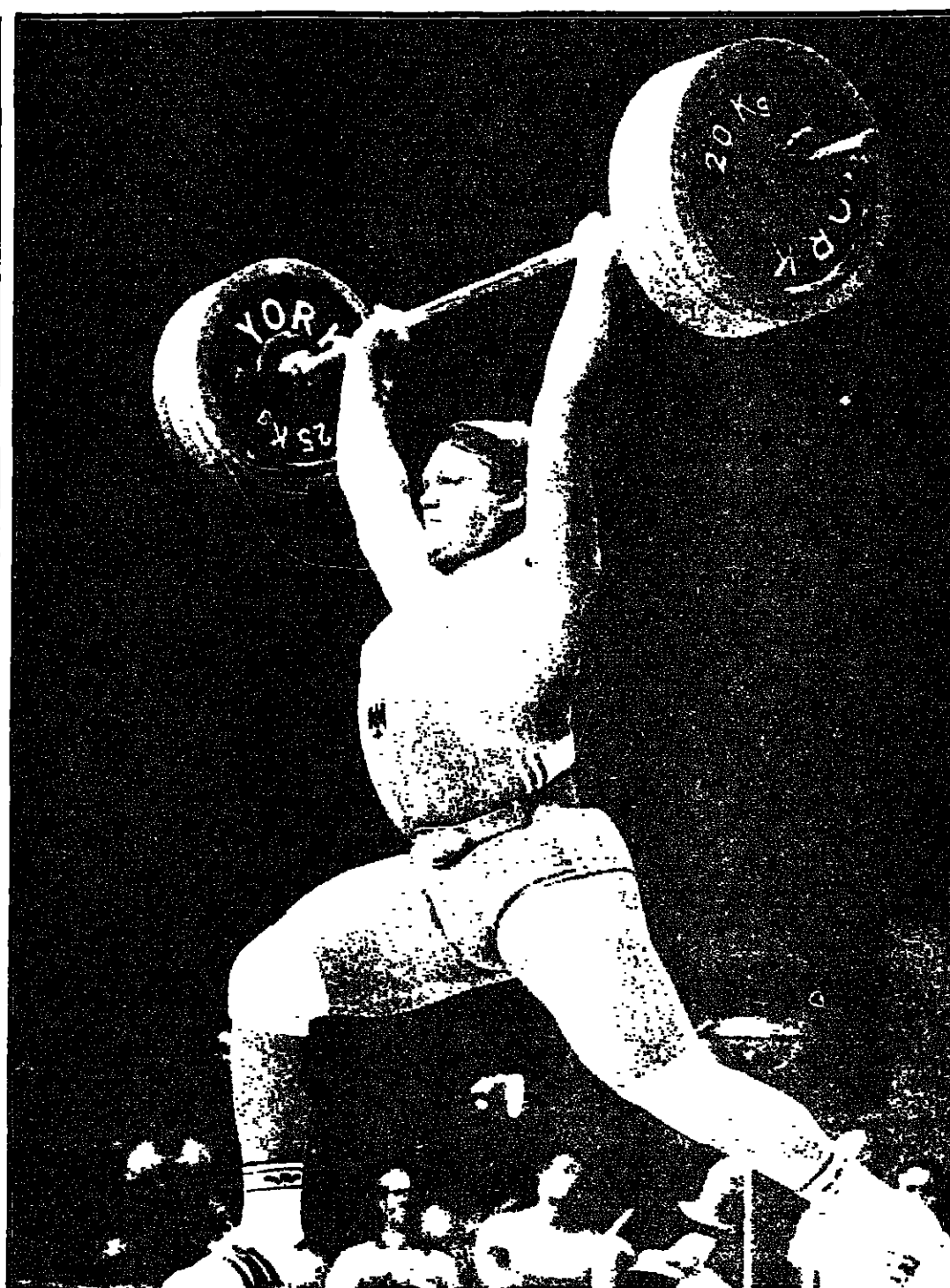
ZURICH (R) — The European Football Union (UEFA) has lifted a ban on Cyprus First Division side Apol Nicosia appearing in European club competition following the team's failure to show up for a champions' cup tie last year. UEFA said in a news release it had granted Apol's request for leniency and would allow the club to participate in the next club competition for which they qualified. The Cypriot side were banned for two seasons and fined 4,000 Swiss francs (\$2,500) after failing to turn up for a European Cup second-round first leg match against Besiktas Istanbul in Oct. 1986. Apol withdrew after apparent pressure from the Cypriot government which has had no diplomatic relations with Turkey since 1974 when Ankara's military intervention divided the island.

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MUSCLE PACKAGE: Manfred Nerlinger, the West German world-class winner of gold and silver medals at the Weightlifting World Championships (Photo INP)

Lalonde thrashes American opponent to win WBC light-heavyweight title

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad (R) — Canadian Donny Lalonde took just four-and-a-half minutes in the ring to win the World Boxing Council (WBC) light-heavyweight championship on Friday night.

With a flurry of punches and hooks, Lalonde floored his opponent, American Eddie Davis, 36, twice in the first round.

Lalonde, a vegetarian and a part-time actor from Winnipeg, opened his second round of the scheduled 12-round bout with a

barrage of punches that dropped Davis to the canvas.

Ring doctors took about five minutes to revive him and he had to be carried dazed and groggy to a city hospital. Lalonde was unhurt after the bout.

Davis landed only one punch during the entire bout, which glanced off Lalonde's jaw.

"I was disappointed Davis did not live up to his reputation," said Lalonde, 27. "I have the power and the punches and I could have ended the fight any

time I wanted."

Lalonde took the title made vacant when champion Thomas Hearns moved to the lighter middleweight division.

Lalonde will make his first title defence against former World Boxing Association (WBA) light-heavyweight champion Leslie "tiger" Stewart of Trinidad and Tobago, the promoters of Friday's bout said. Stewart lost his title to American Virgil Hill last September.

Mavericks score close victory against Bulls

NEW YORK (AP) — The Dallas Mavericks waited 34 seconds for a foul that never came before the Chicago Bulls walked off the court with their first loss of the season.

With Dallas leading by one point Friday night, Rolando Blackman of the Mavericks took an inbound pass with 25 seconds left and was double- and triple-teamed with the ball for at least 10 seconds before passing to Derek Harper.

"I was trying to get fouled," Blackman said. "I got hit with a couple of bolo punches, but it's going to have to be a major-league foul in that situation."

After dribbling away more precious seconds, Harper finally passed to Brad Davis, whose 30-foot shot was too late to beat the 24-second shot clock. Then Roy Tarpley blocked a last-second 3-point attempt by Charles Oakley to preserve the Mavericks' 94-93 victory.

In other NBA games, it was Boston 117, Seattle 112; Detroit 143, San Antonio 111; Indiana

88, Atlanta 86; Utah 118, Houston 96; Phoenix 113, New Jersey 107; Los Angeles Lakers 127, Denver 119; Portland 97, Los Angeles Clippers 87; and Golden State 109, Philadelphia 103.

Mark Aguirre led Dallas with 26 points. He left the game with 56 seconds left after pulling a groin muscle.

Celtics 117, Sonics 112. Boston snapped Seattle's four-game winning streak, rallying to win its 34th straight regular-season game at Boston Garden despite Dale Ellis' 37 points. Darren Davis led the Celtics with 27 points, matching his career high.

Suns 113, Nets 107. Phoenix handed New Jersey its fourth straight loss as Mike Sanders scored a career-high 29 points and Walter Davis added 26.

Lakers 127, Nuggets 119. Los Angeles, losers of two straight after starting the season 8-0, beat Denver as A.C. Green scored a career-high 28 points and grabbed 16 rebounds and

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar added a season-high 26. Alex English led Denver with 27 points and Lafayette Lever had 25.

Warriors 109, 76ers 103

Golden State snapped a seven-game losing streak as Rod Higgins scored 10 of his 28 points in the final 2:13 against Philadelphia. Charles Barkley had 29 points and Cliff Robinson added 27 points for the 76ers.

Pistons 143, Spurs 111

Detroit outscored San Antonio 77-51 in the middle two periods to win easily in front of a crowd of 30,743 at the Silverdome. Adrian Dantley scored 27 points. Reserve centre Petur Gudmundsson led San Antonio with a season-high 18 points.

Jazz 118, Rockets 96

Karl Malone scored 25 of his season-high 35 points as Utah took a 67-47 halftime lead and coasted to victory over Houston. Ralph Sampson paced the Rockets with 19 points, while Akeem Olajuwon, averaging 20.3, was held to five.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Marseille crushes Bordeaux

PARIS (R) — Marseille beat Bordeaux 1-0 at home on Friday night after last year's league and cup winners conceded an own goal in the final minute. Bordeaux midfielder Dominique Bijotat was the culprit when a corner bounced off his chest into the goal. The result moves Marseille from seventh to fifth place in the First Division. Bordeaux stay second behind Monaco. Other First Division matches will be played on Saturday.

UEFA's general secretary to retire

BERNE (R) — The European Football Union's (UEFA) general secretary Hans Bangerter is retiring at the end of 1988. UEFA said on Friday. Bangerter, 64, joined UEFA as general secretary 29 years ago after a seven-year spell as assistant secretary with the International Football Federation (FIFA).

Injury forces ex Cosmos star to quit

BIRMINGHAM, England (AP) — England soccer international Steve Hunt, who played alongside Brazilian star Pele and West Germany's Franz Beckenbauer in the successful New York Cosmos side of the 1970s, was advised Friday to quit the game because of a knee injury. The 31-year-old midfielder, who has been playing for Aston Villa in the English Second Division, injured his right knee six weeks ago and has been advised by a specialist to give up playing. Hunt, who also began his career with Villa in 1974, left English soccer to find fame with the Cosmos, before returning in 1978.

Rain forces delay of motorcycle race

MACAO (AP) — A severe rainstorm washed out the 21st Macao Motorcycle Grand Prix Saturday, forcing organisers to postpone the race and other events until Monday. Officials said they expected strong winds to dry the 3.8 miles (6.1 kilometres) Guia Street Circuit in time for Sunday's 34rd Macao Grand Prix, designated as the Formula Three World Cup. But the rain, triggered by Typhoon Nina as it drifted to the southwest of this coastal Portuguese enclave, forced cancellation of a record round of Formula Three timed practice. The practice had been postponed until Saturday after it was rained out on Friday. The cancellation of the Formula Three practice meant positions on the starting grid of the World Cup were determined by only one round of practice which occurred on Thursday.

New technical rules on Alpine skiing

SESTRIERE, Italy (AP) — Technical rules and the point system regulating the World Cup of Alpine skiing will be discussed at the 1988 meeting of the International Ski Federation (FIS) in Istanbul, but president Marc Holder said "no revolution is in sight." "Only minor changes are in the plans," the president told a news conference in this Italian resort Friday night. Erich Demetz, president of the World Cup Organisation, disclosed that the 1988-89 competition will begin in France while the following edition will take off in the United States and Canada. Demetz also said that fewer races, concentrated over the weekends, will be scheduled in the next edition of the cup and that late slalom heats, on floodlit courses, would be experimented with for the first time in Canada next March.

Norman advances in Australian Open

MELBOURNE (R) — Australian Greg Norman, opened up a virtually unassailable seven-stroke lead by firing a second successive six-under-par 66 in the third round of the Australian Open golf tournament on Saturday. The former British Open champion is set to finish a disappointing year with a fine victory and could also break a 16-year-old record. The biggest winning margin in the tournament was set in 1971 when Jack Nicklaus won by eight shots from Bruce Crampton.

Strasbourg to host European Cup final

BERNE (R) — The French city of Strasbourg will host next year's European Cup-Winners' Cup final on May 11, the European Football Union (UEFA) said. UEFA earlier awarded Stuttgart, West Germany, the right to stage the champions cup final on May 25. The two-leg UEFA Cup final has been scheduled for May 4 and 18.

Pakistani cricketers crush British

LAHORE, Pakistan (R) — Pakistan beat England by an innings and 87 runs in the first test match on Saturday, a crushing victory marred by controversial umpiring. England were spun out in their second innings for 130 soon after lunch on the fourth day, equalling their lowest ever score against Pakistan. They were dismissed for the same amount at the Oval in 1954. England resumed on Saturday at 47 for four, still 170 runs behind Pakistan's first innings of 392, and man-of-the-match Abdul Qadir dashed their slender hopes of saving the game with three more wickets in the pre-lunch session.

S. Australia flounders Kiwis' onslaught

ADELAIDE (R) — South Australia were struggling on 164 for five at tea on the second day of their cricket match against New Zealand after a four-wicket onslaught by spinner John Bracewell. South Australia were trailing New Zealand's first innings score of 360 by 196 runs, with not out batsmen David Hookes on 72 and Don O'Connor on three. Bracewell was brought into the attack shortly before lunch and captured the wicket of opener Andrew Hilditch in his third over. Hilditch was caught by Richard Hadlee at first slip for 34. Bracewell went on to claim three more scalps in the afternoon.

Benfica fires Danish trainer

LISBON (R) — Benfica have sacked their Danish trainer Ebbe Skovdahl because of the team's disappointing results in the Portuguese League championship, club president Joao Santos said on Saturday. Skovdahl, who joined this season to replace English trainer John Mortimore, was asked to leave after Benfica's 2-2 draw on Friday with Farense, who are in 17th place. "We detected a series of deficiencies and there was nothing else to do but to dismiss him," Santos said. Benfica, last season's champions, are in second place in the First Division with 16 points from 12 games, trailing European Cup holders Porto who have 19 points from 11 matches. Skovdahl is not accompanying Benfica to Saudi Arabia for a friendly this weekend, club sources said. The team will be led by assistant trainer Antonio Oliveira.

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Performances 3, 30, 6, 15, 8, 30, 10, 30



OPERA

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LOS AMIGOS

Performances 3, 30, 6, 15, 8, 30, 10, 30

PLAZA

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WILD CATS

Performances 3, 30, 6, 15, 8, 30, 10, 30



OAPEC seeks increased cooperation with EEC

KUWAIT (AP) — Oil ministers of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) on Saturday advised the OAPEC chief to pursue contacts with the European Economic Community (EEC) to "upgrade technical cooperation."

Without elaborating, a statement at the conclusion of the 10-nation group urged this cooperation "in a manner serving interests of member states of the two blocs."

OAPEC groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Iraq, Syria, Algeria, Libya and Tunisia.

The five first countries are members of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) alliance which is seeking a trade accord with the EEC that would facilitate entry of Gulf petrochemical products into European markets.

Earlier, a conference source said that the OAPEC oil ministers were expected to appraise the prospects of cooperation between the organisation and the EEC following "the encouraging attitude by EEC foreign ministers who decided last week in Brussels that the situation is politically ripe for concluding an agreement with the GCC countries."

Current OAPEC chief is Abdul

Aziz Al Wattari of Iraq, the assistant secretary-general who was named acting secretary-general following the resignation last September of Ali Atiqa.

The final statement at the conclusion of OAPEC's one-day meeting requested Mr. Wattari to continue performing the task but stopped short of confirming him in the post that Mr. Atiqa held.

The statement expressed gratitude to Mr. Atiqa who resigned after the organisation decided at its earlier conference this year to cut the budget.

The meeting endorsed a budget of about 1.5 million Kuwaiti dinars (\$5.3 million), as compared to an earlier budget of 2.3 million dinars (\$8 million).

The ministers appealed to member states to settle overdue arrears payments.

There was no reference to the reinstatement of Egypt as 11th member of OAPEC.

The meeting had begun as Iraq reiterated its demand for a petroleum production quota equal to Iran's.

The Iraqis said they would push this demand when the larger Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) gathers in Vienna on Dec. 9.

Swiss reject Yamani bid to boost stake in watch firm

GENEVA (AP) — A bid by former Saudi oil minister, Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, to gain a controlling stake in a Geneva maker of prestige watches has been rejected, local authorities said Friday.

Sheikh Yamani had been negotiating with the Swiss city's authorities for about a year to increase his reported minority share in Vacheron et Constantin watchmakers. Founded in 1755, the company is said to be worth more than 5 million Swiss francs (\$3.6 million).

Geneva's department of public economy turned down Sheikh Yamani's plan because of laws limiting the amount of land foreigners can buy in Switzerland. More than a third of the company's assets are in real estate, department official, Mr. Robert Hensler, said.

A foreign company specialising in watches might have been granted a waiver, he added.

Mr. Jacques Ketterer, majority shareholder in Vacheron et Constantin, said last year that Sheikh Yamani had bought a minority stake.

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1987

YOUR HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Fichter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The conditions which have been surrounding you and, in a way, holding you back, will be changing rather rapidly, so be prepared for this. You will have less tendency to delay your actions than usual.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Handling out-of-town matters should be your first priority today, but don't neglect other duties. Your judgment is particularly fine.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Find a quiet place where you can think and decide on what is really important to you. Listen to the advice of a trusted adviser.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Trust in your friends to give you the support and backing you need. Enjoy a happy family dinner tonight and feel content.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) This is a good day to gain the support of your superiors on a new project. Take the time to handle a public duty you like.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get out early and meet some new people who can assist you greatly in the future. Plan out the details of an upcoming trip tonight.

VERGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Now is the time to get your home in order and make all necessary repairs. You'll find a way to create more harmony with your mate.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A talented associate can show you some shortcuts which will make your job much easier. Settle a dispute with a good friend.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Stop back and consider your financial situation; you may see there is an easier way to improve it. Get plenty of rest this evening.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Your perception is excellent right now, but don't rely on your first impressions completely. Let your mate know what you want.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You now have that extra time you've been looking for to seek out the data you need for a new and profitable business project.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) This is a wonderful time for you socially. Use your charm to calm down an angry friend. Be sure you drive with the utmost care.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get the backing of an important superior for a new project. Be alert to situations which are developing around you this evening.

THE Daily Crossword by Harvey L. Chew

ACROSS

1. Maladial fevers
6. Handle
10. Buds
14. Seed cover
15. Observed
16. Very black
17. Golf term
18. Sharp tasting
19. — avis
20. External
22. Cake froster
23. Roll call reply
24. Flammable gas
26. Sluggishness
30. Mountainside debris
32. Lily plant
33. Curse
35. Candidate list
36. Engine part
41. Craftsman
43. Kind of beam
44. Nev. city
46. Bismark or Préminger
47. Germanic god
49. Disavowal
51. Dan —
54. At that time
56. Paradise
57. Magazine
63. Chore
64. Scheme
65. — Gay
66. Indigo plant
67. "Swedish nightingale"
68. Pungent
69. Solitary
70. Diner sign
71. Gathered leaves

DOWN

1. Over
2. Wilder
3. Addict
4. Decorative
5. Gr. poetess
6. Flower
7. Proximal
8. Antitoxin
9. Deer horn
10. Orbit point
11. Fiber plant
12. Actress
13. Rabbit trap
21. Long-legged bird
25. Examination
26. Flaps
27. Spread
28. Horse color
29. Sea snail
31. Oriental gumshoe
34. Ind. city
36. Wine center
37. So long
38. Chemical compound
40. Religious image
42. Riding and roping show
45. Competitor
48. Tumble down
50. Make beloved
51. Mine find
52. "A Bell for —"
53. Varnish
54. Ingratiate
55. Red deer
56. Essayist
58. Pizzaro
60. It's a sin to tell —
62. "Shane" star

Sunday's Puzzle Solved:

SCRAIP AGG AMOR
TINDIE THE RABEE
AUSTRIANICRAWL
MYRONICRAFL
RAID HES BARRER
LAR GEE TALLS
TRISHWOLFROODS
ATREAP ALON SEE
REOCAP NOO DER
ABRA PROTHESIS
ROUSIAN PROTHES
STRAIN SSI BLAWS

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, Nov. 21, '87 and ending Wednesday, Nov. 25, '87. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	—	—	—	—	1,000
Petra Bank	6400	12920	2,000	2,120	1,000
Jordan Islamic Bank	2050	3772	1,800	1,840	1,000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	4941	8076	1,600	1,630	1,000
Jordan Gulf Bank	1250	1598	1,300	1,270	1,000
Housing Bank	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	—	—	—	—	1,000
Cairo Amman Bank	4264	89388	23,500	20,900	5,000
Bank of Jordan	7984	137641	17,650	16,900	5,000
Arab Bank	130	15600	119,000	120,000	10,000
Jordan National Bank	13728	34924	2,560	2,540	1,000
Jordan Finance House for Development	29400	32328	1,050	1,100	1,000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	76370	98754	1,780	1,780	1,000
Finance and Credit Corporation	15508	9999	0,660	0,640	1,000
National Financial Investments	900	1530	1,780	1,650	1,000
National Portfolio Securities	7069	5073	0,730	0,710	1,000
Jordan Securities Corporation	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	—	—	—	—	1,000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	—	—	—	—	2,000
Al Mashrek Exchange	400	5600	14,000	14,000	10,000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Jordan French Insurance	5350	39030	7,390	7,000	1,000
REFO Life Insurance	1057	1054	0,970	1,100	1,000
Jordan Insurance	2375	33825	14,400	13,900	1,000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	7000	6408	0,930	0,940	1,000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Holy Land Insurance	3500	3965	1,100	1,150	1,000
Philadelphia Insurance	1000	640	0,630	0,640	1,000
National Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jerusalem Insurance	1850	2613	1,420	1,400	1,000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	1500	1500	1,000	1,000	1,000
Universal Insurance	29965	24868	0,700	0,930	1,000
General Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Eagle Insurance	—	—	—	—	10,000
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	—	10,000
Al-Izhar Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
National Abhyas Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Services and industries					
General Investments	511	669	1,300	1,300	1,000
Imna for Investment and Financial Facilities	2556	1831	0,710	0,650	1,000
Darco for Housing and Investment	4863	2120	0,450	0,440	1,000
Real Estate Investment (Aqaro)	14880	6761	0,460	0,450	1,000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	—	—	—	—	1,000
Petru Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	2831	368	0,600	0,630	1,000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Ta Jecro	410	131	0,820	0,820	1,000
Jordanian Electric Power	8866	13920	1,570	1,570	1,000
Irbid District Electricity	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab International Hotels	—	—	—	—	1,000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1,000
Garage Owners Federation Office	500	2150	4,300	4,300	1,000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Press Foundation	450	1463	3,000	3,250	1,000
Jordan Press and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1,000
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	30050	10479	0,370	0,350	1,000
Jordan Dairy	8122	8627	1,070	1,060	1,000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	15515	34552	2,220	2,190	1,000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	72442	77928	1,080	1,060	1,000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	5940	14837	2,500	2,490	1,000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intaj)	4624	6739	1,450	1,470	1,000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	15000	16646	1,070	1,070	1,000
Aladdin Industries	86521	161184	1,840	1,830	1,000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	5000	23008	4,600	4,550	1,000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	2100	2268	1,080	1,080	1,000
Jordan Ceramics	7666	9103	1,170	1,200	1,000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	23482	16361	0,700	0,710	1,000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	8030	11336	1,400	1,400	1,000
National Steel Industries	32410	93560	2,900	2,870	1,000
Universal Chemical Industries	75998	86522	1,140	1,160	1,000
General Mining	200	310	1,650	1,550	1,000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	14003	105155	7,480	7,550	5,000
Jordan Lime & Brick	120350	20997	0,180	0,170	1,000
National Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	—	—	—	—	1,000
Livestock and Poultry	12535	8870	0,720	0,700	1,000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	5550	6930	1,240	1,250	1,000
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	10054	26703	2,650	2,660	1,000
Jordan Rockwood Industries	35625	22252	0,630	0,630	1,000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	2000	1650	1,000	0,750	1,000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	—	—	—	—	1,000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1,000
Woolen Industries	5200	2776	0,560	0,540	1,000
Jordan Tanning	1989	4337	2,150	2,200	1,000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	400	1240	3,100	3,100	1,000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	91	1292	14,000	14,250	5,000
Mass Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	—	—	—	—	1,000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	19050	17909	0,940	0,950	1,000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	85647	83430	1,000	0,980	1,000
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	124291	379278	3,260	3,300	1,000
Jordan Cement Factories	60757	63187	1,040	1,040	1,000
Jordan Glass Industries	100	90	0,890	0,900	1,000
Grand total	1,151,626	1,920,181			

Dollar, stocks and shares sag again in world markets

TOKYO (R) — Stock prices sagged in Tokyo on Saturday after the dollar and Wall Street shares dropped overnight, brokers said.

The 225-share Nikkei average closed a half-day Saturday session 216.39 points, or nearly one per cent, lower, at 23,052.23. Declines led advances by almost two to one. Trading was light.

"Individuals were the big sellers," one broker said. "Major Japanese institutional investors were sidelined."

Brokers said the dollar's drop in New York to near record post-war lows triggered selling of shares of major exporters, such as electronics and automobile companies.

The continued climb of the Japanese yen against the dollar will make it that much tougher for Japan's exporters to maintain sales and profits in the giant American market, they said.

The dollar fell to 133.50

Financial experts say that Japan, convinced the battered dollar cannot remain the sole pillar of the world monetary system, wants the yen to play a greater supporting role.

But, they say, achieving that aim will not be easy.

"The yen is a key international currency but it's not as used as it could be," said economist David Gerstenhaber of Morgan Stanley International. "It's still then yen, it's not the dollar."

Behind the new urgency in Japanese calls for a new system is a belief that currency markets cannot be stabilised by relying solely on the dollar.

"The key issue for Japanese officials and business is to stabilise the monetary system because Japan is an exporting country," said Mr. Nobuyuki Ueda, senior economist with the Long-Term Credit Bank.

L. American leaders call for action

ACAPULCO, Mexico (AP) — Eight Latin American presidents bemoaned their region's crushing debt problem Friday and called for united action to save their devastated economies and societies threatened by social unrest.

One after another, the Latin leaders spoke of "unjust international economic relations," "unequal distribution of riches," and "debilitating debt" in opening speeches of their two-day summit.

President Jaime Lusinchi of Venezuela said the nations of Latin America, like other under-

developed countries, are suffering "the results of unjust international economic relations."

"These are manifested in constant deterioration of terms of exchange, the monopoly of new technologies, the imposition of tax barriers to our products, the arbitrary management of international financing, the manipulation of markets for primary materials, and particularly dramatic, the grave problems of foreign debt," he said.

President Virgilio Barco of Colombia said crushing debt-service payments have forced many Latin American countries to "put aside carefully prepared plans" for development.

"Complicating this even more, the basic export products of many states, once strong sources of income, are strongly punished by preferences and duties that make exporting practically impossible," President Barco said.

The presidents are meeting in this Pacific resort to begin searching for a common approach to their foreign debts, a problem that has stunted their nations' economies, led to social unrest and in some cases threatened their governments.

Marriott honoured by business travellers

AMMAN — For the third year in a row, Marriott Hotels and Resorts has been named the "top hotel chain" in a survey conducted by one of the industry's leading travel trade publications, Business Travel News.

A total of 1,831 corporate travel planners responded to questions on 74 different hotel systems, and Marriott retained its position as the top hotel chain by accumulating the best overall average score (4.14 out of a possible 5.00). Marriott achieved this year's ranking by placing first in five of 11 service categories:

— Quality of facilities for non-resort meetings (Score — 4.33).

— Quality of facilities for resort meetings (Score — 4.39).

— Quality of frequent travel program (Score — 4.12).

— Ease in arranging group travel / meetings (Score — 4.21).

— Quality of corporate discount program (Score — 3.76).

Key: 5 - Excellent, 4 - Very good, 3 - Good, 2 - Fair, 1 - Poor

According to Business Travel News, Marriott Hotels and Resorts placed in the top 25 in all 11 categories and "beat out" such

chains as Hyatt, Hilton, Four Seasons, Intercontinental and Westin.

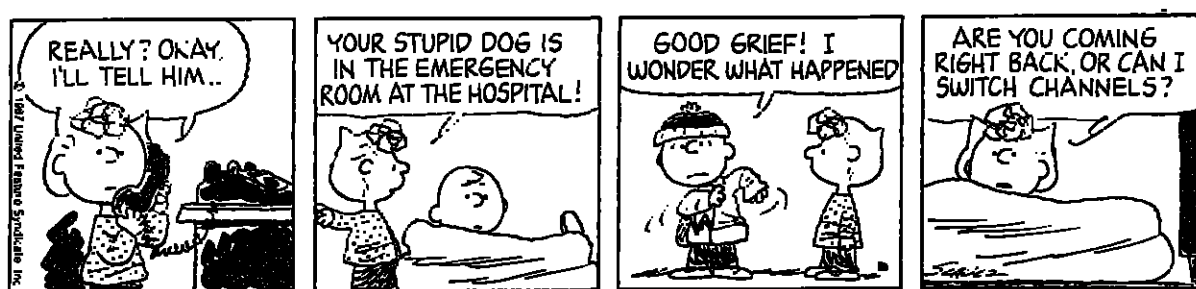
Explaining Marriott's success, the publication quotes Randall A. Smith, president of Smith Travel Research, as saying, "Marriott is known for its service, and they go to a great measure to make sure they maintain their high-quality level of services."

Especially important to business travellers are Marriott's first-place ratings in corporate rate discount, available to business travellers at 175 hotels and resorts in 112 cities worldwide.

In addition, Marriott Honored Guest Awards celebrates its fourth anniversary this November. Marriott is also recognised for the industry's richest frequent traveller program enabling over 1.7 million members to earn free vacations throughout the world.

Marriott's most recent enhancement to Honored Guest Awards is the introduction of its own credit card. Issued as a VISA card by First Chicago's FCC National Bank, the Marriott Honored Guest Awards' FIRST

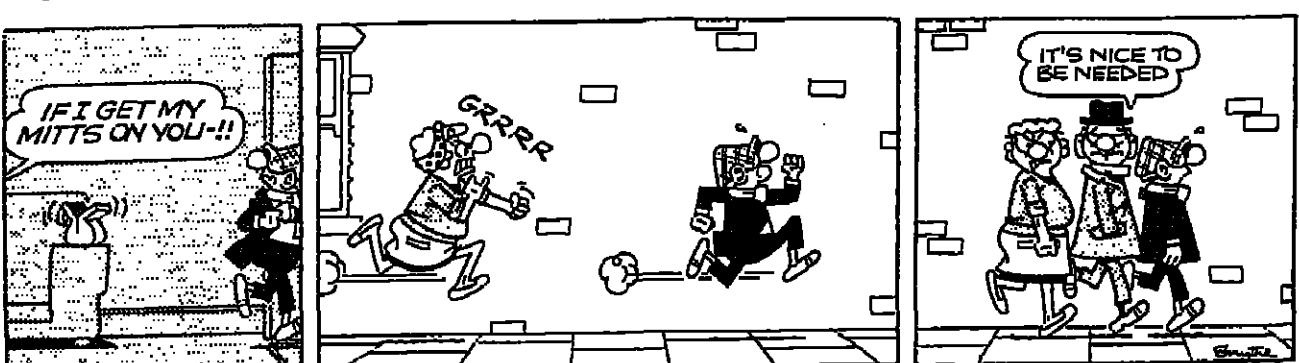
Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF By Harris



South African Jumbo crashes with 159 on board

JOHANNESBURG (R) — A South African Boeing 747 was lost over the Indian Ocean on a flight from Taiwan on Saturday. President P.W. Botha said it apparently went down in the sea and the fate of 159 people aboard was unknown.

The last word of the aircraft was a radio message from the pilot as it approached the island of Mauritius, saying there was smoke in the cockpit.

Planes and ships from Mauritius, France's Indian Ocean island of Reunion and a U.S. military base on Diego Garcia launched a big search operation.

At one point on Saturday morning, the crew of a French Transal military plane spotted what they thought was wreckage from the Boeing, but officials on Reunion said it turned out to be something else.

The authorities on Reunion said the search for any trace of the aircraft was still going on and "it appears that the aircraft crashed into the sea."

In Cape Town, President Botha issued a statement of his government's concern and promised relatives of those aboard that they would be informed as soon as anything was known.

The plane was flying from Taipei to Mauritius and Johannesburg with 140 passengers and 19 crew, according to a South African Airways spokesman.

nationalities of the people on the plane.

Japanese diplomatic sources said between 42 and 49 of the passengers were Japanese, most of them seamen on their way to Cape Town where they were to join fishing trawlers.

The Japanese passengers also included a martial arts fighter known as the "great kabouki" who was due to fight in a wrestling match in Durban Saturday evening.

One of the passengers' relatives at Jan Smuts Airport, Sherry Chen, who had come to meet her Taiwanese father and seven-year-old daughter who were on the plane, broke down when she heard the aircraft was missing.

She said she had phoned earlier and had been told only that the airliner was delayed.

"Just now I was told the airplane was missing. I can't believe it. I don't know what to say. I just feel terrible," she said.

The Taipei-Mauritius route is about 8,000 kilometres, the longest flown by South African Airways.

South Africa's worst air disaster before the present one occurred on April 20, 1968, when a Boeing 707 crashed in Windhoek, Namibia (South West Africa), killing 122 people. There were six survivors.

Giant waves kill 581 in Philippines

BITANO, Philippines (R) — Giant waves triggered by typhoon Nina killed at least 581 people in the central Philippines, government and military officials said on Saturday.

Five hundred of the dead were from Sorsogon province, where tidal waves smashed into coastal villages on Wednesday night, provincial Governor Raul Lee told reporters.

"When the tidal wave hit, the villagers scammed out of their houses. Some drowned, others were pinned down among the debris," Delia Lato, an official said in Bitano village.

Nina, the worst typhoon to hit the country in three years, made more than 100,000 people homeless and caused property and crop damage estimated at \$12.3 million.

President Corazon Aquino has declared 11 provinces in Luzon island calamity zones and ordered emergency rehabilitation.

"There is going to be a lot of hunger and illness because water is polluted. There is always a danger of all kinds of epidemic breaking out," Social Welfare Secretary Mita Pardo de Tavera told villagers in Sorsogon, the worst-hit province.

Three days after the storm struck, villagers were still searching bodies of missing relatives.

Nkomo condemns killing of white missionaries

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — Opposition leader Joshua Nkomo on Saturday condemned the massacre of 16 white missionaries and their children, allegedly by armed rebels who fought for him in Zimbabwe's independence war.

"This type of action could only have been carried out by the enemies of our people and our country," he said in a message from London to the Chronicle newspaper in the Matabeleland provincial capital of Bulawayo.

Mr. Nkomo, on a private visit to England when the whites were killed at two mission farms south east of Bulawayo this week, said he believed the killers sought to wreck unity talks he was holding with Prime Minister Robert Mugabe aimed at merging the country's two main political parties.

"The people who did these things want to divide our people because each time we are about to finalise unity talks something like this happens," he said.

White S. African woman jailed for spying on ANC

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — A 27-year-old South African white woman who infiltrated the guerrilla-backed African National Congress (ANC) for Pretoria's intelligence services.

But Defence Attorney Julian Colegrave argued in the trial that opened last Monday that South Africa was not an enemy of Zimbabwe and that she had not spied on this country. He entered an innocent plea to violating the Official Secrets Act of Zimbabwe.

Harrington, described by state prosecutor Augustine Chigumira as "basically a racist," said in mitigation before sentence that she did not support her white-led government's policy of apartheid or racial separation but wanted South Africa free from terrorism to allow peaceful reforms.

Her attorney appealed for leniency, saying: "This is not a mata hari or a superspy, but someone who is pathetically naive."

Harrington alerted suspicion when she tried to get a police guard at the ANC house to mail an envelope of intelligence reports for her.

Harrington, who entered Zimbabwe from South Africa in October last year posing as an anti-apartheid activist and was

Assailants block shipment of ballots for Haitian elections

PORT-AU-PRINCE (R) — A shipment of ballots for Haiti's first free elections in 30 years was blocked by unknown assailants and Haitians reported other election-related attacks and registration irregularities.

A truck carrying ballot papers to Haiti's third city, Gonaïve, was blocked by unidentified assailants. Provisional Electoral Council (CEP) treasurer Alain Roncourt said. He had no further details.

He said 90 per cent of the ballots had gone out for the elections on Sunday but officials conceded they were having problems in organising the vote in Haiti, where pre-election violence has left more than a dozen people dead.

"We have many technical difficulties," said the president of the CEP, Ernst Mirville.

The cities of Gonaïve and Hinche and some rural areas have not yet received ballot papers, officials of the independent nine-man CEP told a news conference.

Citizens have called local radio stations complaining that the CEP refused to register them without giving reasons.

People have been seen distributing voting cards to minors without authorisation, witnesses told Reuters.

Unidentified assailants have also been reported to have burnt down electoral offices, destroying documents and equipment.

Haiti is to hold its first free elections in 30 years on Sunday. The country was ruled with an iron grip by "Papa Doc" Francois Duvalier and later by his son "Baby Doc" Jean-Claude from 1957 until Baby Doc's ousting in February 1986.

Unless one of the 23 presidential candidates wins more than 50 per cent of the popular vote, a two-man run-off will take place in late December.

Conservative candidate Lamar-tinere Honorat, not considered a front-runner, stepped down on Friday, accusing the CEP of favouritism towards left-wing candidates. He urged his followers to abstain from voting.

The Justice Department released a statement to reporters outside the prison citing an abrupt break in negotiations Thursday night when the Cubans rejected a plan to free about 50 hostages.

"By leading us to believe that they were prepared to resolve the situation, they have impaired their opportunity to put their case before the people of the world," the statement said. "They are not helping their position."

A major stumbling block all along has been that the Cubans cannot present a unified front in negotiations, Mr. Stewart said.

"There is no one who speaks for the detainees as a group," he said. "I don't see an end in sight right now."

In Louisiana, language has complicated negotiations. Friday night, Oakdale inmates paraded as hand-painted banner reading, "U.S. government please allow us to speak with someone we can trust who understands our language."

COLUMNS 7&8

Sierra Leone in darkest hour, literally

FREETOWN (R) — Two years after General Joseph Momoh took over as president, the West African state of Sierra Leone is going through its darkest hour — literally. In the past four months the city's half million population has had electricity on average for only 20 hours per month while some districts have had no electricity for six months. Only the candle makers are happy. The government has spent millions of dollars maintaining ageing generators, which Sierra Leoneans hope may be repaired in the next few weeks thanks to a \$1.3-million grant from West Germany, which has also promised to send experts. The once pleasant seaside city, built on a series of lush hills and made famous by novelist Graham Greene in the Heart of the Matter, has been plunged into the heart of darkness, as one diplomat put it. A shortage of petrol for tanker lorries has led to rationing of drinking water. Industry is grinding to a halt and anger and frustration are evident in all sectors of society. "We live in a very sick country," the owner of a deserted restaurant said. He said the former British colony's economic slide began when it played host to an Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit in 1980. Then-President Siaka Stevens spent \$200 million on lavish installations including two luxury hotels, 60 villas for heads of state and, ironically, street lighting.

Victorian painting breaks 2 records

LONDON (AP) — A picture by Dante Gabriel Rossetti called Proserpine was sold in London for £1.43 million (\$2.58 million), breaking world records for the work of the pre-Raphaelite artist and for any Victorian painter. "We expected a top price of around £600,000 (about \$1 million)," said William Hanham, spokesman for auctioneers Christie's, after the picture was bought by London dealer Christopher Gibbs against strong bidding from other British dealers in Victorian paintings. The previous record for a Rossetti was \$382,950 (then £185,000) in New York in 1981 for another mythological portrait, and for any Victorian artist, \$1,265,000 (then £883,000) in New York in 1985 for a Harem scene by Frederick Lewis. "Taste has changed so much that in the 1920s, it was difficult even to give such paintings away," Hanham said. The new record painting depicts Jane Morris, wife of artist-craftsman William Morris, as the Roman mythological figure carried off to Hades to be the bride of Pluto. She could not escape because she had eaten a pomegranate seed there. The picture was sold by Carol Spiers, who received it in a bequest from Manchester artist L.S. Lowry, who died in 1976. Rossetti, who died in 1882, belonged briefly to a group of artists who called themselves the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood and painted in fine detail subjects they considered serious and symbolic.

Contents of Mona Lisa villa sold

FLORENCE, Italy (AP) — Sales of Renaissance and 18th-century artworks from a villa where Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa is believed to have lived sold for some 1 billion lire (\$800,000) at an auction, Italian news agencies reported. The faintly smiling woman in the "Mona Lisa" painting, which now hangs in the Louvre in Paris, is believed to have been a member of the Gherardini family, former owners of the Villa Vignamaggio. Artworks from the villa sold at the Pitti auction house in Florence include depictions of the Madonna by Renaissance painters Michele Di Ridolfo Ghirlandajo and Domenico Di Pace, four 18th century oil paintings and a pair of 18th century bronze angels. Centuries after the villa passed from the Gherardini, a family of Florentine merchants, it became the property of writer Bino Sanniniatelli, who died in 1984. His heirs put the artworks and furnishings up for sale.

Authenticity of 8 Rembrandts questioned

NEW YORK (AP) — A Rembrandt research project is questioning the authenticity of eight paintings in Britain attributed to the artist, sharply lowering their value, the December issue of Artnews magazine reports. The works cited by the authoritative Rembrandt research effort include Landscape With Coach in the Wallace Collection and seven works in the National Gallery's Rembrandt section. "The committee is giving us a much leaner Rembrandt than we have had in the past. The number of paintings it will accept as his is expected to total 350, half the number one scholar attributed to him early this century," said the writer of the Artnews story, the magazine's editor-at-large Sylvia Hochfield. "The people I feel sorry for are those English and American families, a large part of whose family fortunes are invested in a Rembrandt which is going to turn out to be by somebody else," John Ingham, director of the Wallace Collection, said in the Artnews statement. The statement noted that Rembrandt shared a studio in his early working years with another painter and that the two worked so closely together that collectors at the time described certain works as being by either painter. One work that may suffer shortly because of the panel's inquiries is Portrait of a Bearded Man Standing in an Archway, which is about to come to auction at Sotheby's. Because of the committee's findings, the magazine said, the work will be catalogued there as "attributed to Rembrandt" rather than as a Rembrandt. Its estimated value is now \$800,000 to \$1.2 million. If the work had passed muster, it would have had a conservative value of \$4 to \$6 million.

12% of Kinshasa exposed to AIDS

KINSHASA, Zaire (AP) — A new study said 12 per cent of Kinshasa's 3.5 million people have been exposed to the AIDS virus. Zaire's health minister reported. Ngandu Kabeya told a meeting of public health officials, the study also showed that 5 per cent of the population of Lubumbashi, Kolwezi, and other rural areas of Shaba province in the south eastern part of the country had tested sero-positive. He did not say who conducted the survey, when it took place, or how many people were tested. An earlier survey of 2,400 people in the capital indicated that 6.3 per cent of the city's population had been exposed to the AIDS virus. A sero-positive test result shows only that a person has been exposed to the virus, not that they have developed an active case of the disease. Zaire's National AIDS Committee has registered 2,000 confirmed cases since the disease was first diagnosed in the country in 1983.

Religious challenge to suttee ban barred

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — The high court in the western Indian state of Rajasthan has ruled that the state's new ordinance banning widow burning could not be challenged on religious grounds. The United News of India (UNI) said the two-judge panel found there was "no religious sanction" for the Hindu practice of "suttee" and rejected a petition challenging the law. The court has not yet decided, however, whether to admit a petition challenging the ordinance on constitutional grounds, the news agency said. The ordinance was enacted on Oct. 1 following a public outcry over the death of an 18-year-old widow in September. Roop Kanwar committed suttee by burning herself to death on Sept. 4 on her husband's funeral pyre in Rajasthan's Deorala village. The practice, though banned by federal law, occurs from time to time in remote villages. Adherents of the custom have tried to collect funds and build a shrine in Deorala glorifying the death. There also have been a series of rallies and demonstrations by pro-suttee groups in Rajasthan and the capital, New Delhi. Under the new ordinance, a person who provokes a widow to commit suttee may face capital punishment or life imprisonment and a fine. Punishment for efforts to glorify such a death would be up to seven years imprisonment. A federal law with similar provisions is under study.

Bangladesh police fire blanks at curfew violators

DHAKA (R) — Police said they fired warning shots to break up groups of curfew violators on Saturday after President Hossain Mohammad Ershad declared a state of emergency on Friday night.

Police said some opposition activists tried to start small marches on the outskirts of Bangladesh's capital to protest against Gen. Ershad's new tough measures. But they fled after police fired blank shots.

Opposition leaders told Reuters by telephone police charged into a separate group of protesters in the old Dhaka area with long bamboo sticks to disperse another march during curfew hours.

One opposition leader, Mohammad Abdul Jalil, said their campaign against Gen. Ershad would continue despite the curfew and the emergency.

A proclamation carried by state radio and television on Friday night banned all rallies and processions and suspended fundamental rights.

The government placed five key cities under curfew to head off protests against the new powers, but authorities appeared to enforce the order rather loosely.

Police did not challenge the hundreds of people who walked to their offices in the morning, although they checked identity papers in some cases, witnesses said.

Cycle-rickshaws plied the streets in the thickly-populated old city areas, but most of the capital appeared deserted.

Police reported that they took some political leaders into custody after the emergency came into force but said that many more had gone into hiding.

The opposition said Gen. Ershad's action would not hamper its campaign aimed at forcing

U.K., Spain fail to agree on use of Gibraltar airport

MADRID (R) — Spain and Britain, resuming negotiations on Saturday, have failed in a first round of talks to agree on joint use of Gibraltar airport and unblock West European plans for cheaper air fares.

"I'd rather have no agreement than a bad agreement," Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordóñez told reporters after three hours of talks on Friday with British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe.

British officials said although talks on the complex dispute would resume later there was still substantial disagreement to settle before Howe flies home.

Ortega calls for continued defence despite peace efforts

MANAGUA (R) — Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega has urged continued military defence of the Sandinista revolution while his government pursued peace under a regional agreement for ending Central America's conflicts.

"We want peace, but it doesn't depend only on us," Mr. Ortega told several thousand troops in a rally in a Managua square.

"There are those who are working to make war," Mr. Ortega said in a reference to the Reagan administration, seen by Nicaragua as the main obstacle to peace because of its support for the anti-government contra rebels.

"So don't let it pass through anyone's mind, even for an instant, to lay down their arms,

because to lay down our arms would be to surrender and to betray the revolution," he said.

Rally organisers said most of the estimated 15,000 troops were returning from two years of voluntary military service. They said many would be immediately redeployed as reservists.

Mr. Ortega requested a minute of applause in a tribute to those killed in the war, which has claimed over 40,000 Nicaraguan victims since 1981.

Despite the regional peace agreement signed by five Central American presidents in Guatemala on Aug. 7, Nicaragua's fighting has reached its bloodiest levels in recent weeks as the rebels sought to give military teeth to their political demands, diplomats said.

New demands by U.S. rioters stall talks on hostages

OAKDALE, Louisiana (AP) — New demands by Cuban inmates stalled negotiations to free 26 hostages at a federal prison in Louisiana, a senator said, while the government toughened its stance against Cubans holding 94 captives at Atlanta's federal penitentiary.

"It is time for the Cubans to realise there is only so far we can go," Senator John Breaux said Friday night in announcing the suspension of negotiations with Cuban inmates at the Federal Detention Centre in Oakdale, Louisiana.

"When they looked at the proposal, they added things to it that made it impossible for us to accept it," Sen. Breaux said at a news conference soon after the expected release of the hostages fell through. "We can't have them asking for 40 acres, a house and a tractor."

U.S. Justice Department spokesman Mark Sheehan said he hoped the next negotiating session would be held Saturday, although no time had been set.

A tentative agreement to end the standoff with 1,000 Cuban prisoners was reached with in-

mate representatives late Thursday, Sen. Breaux said, refusing to disclose the new demands or the agreement's contents.

"It might be a long time before they're out," he said, referring to the hostages.

In Atlanta, officials Friday urged 1,128 Cubans still holding the prison to negotiate or surrender.

They also rejected an offer by a Cuban-American delegation led by Miami Mayor Xavier Suarez to trade places with some of the hostages, and would not allow the group to meet with the prisoners.

Government negotiators appeared to be "taking a firmer posture," said Justice Department spokesman Tom Stewart.

"The negotiators... are saying to the detainees, 'please, you're having quite an effect on your own families and on the hostage families. You can't be helping your own situation by prolonging this. Do what it takes to negotiate, or the unspoken postscript to that is surrender,'" Mr. Stewart said.

Inmates rioted at Oakdale on Nov. 21 and in Atlanta on Monday following the announcement

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SBARH
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SMALL PRECAUTION, LARGE GAIN

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ J 5 4
♥ A 7 5 4
♦ A 7 5
♣ 8 6 4

WEST
♠ 8 8
♥ K 8 6 2
♦ J 8 8 6
♣ Q 9 3

EAST
♠ 6 3 2
♥ Q J 10 3
♦ 10 3
♣ J 10 7 5

SOUTH
♠ A K Q 10 7
♥ 9
♦ K Q 4 2
♣ A K 2

The bidding:
South West North East
2 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass
3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
4 NT Pass 5 ♠ Pass
5 NT Pass 6 ♠ Pass
6 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Nine of ♠

There is a sound principle of card play that is often observed more in the breach. It is: Whenever possible, make at least one of the opponents commit himself before you have to play a key card. Here's how it works.

South's bid of five no trump did more than ask for kings. It confirmed that his side possessed all

the aces, and it gave North the option of bidding a grand slam if he felt he had extra values. When North merely showed no kings, South contained himself with a small slam.

West led the nine of spades and declarer's problem was simple—he had to hold his losers in the minor suits to one. If the diamonds were to split 3-3, life would be easy, but the odds favored a 4-2 break.

Declarer's technique was faultless. He won the opening lead in hand and drew a second round of trumps. Next, he cashed the king of diamonds, crossed to the ace, then led a diamond toward his hand. East had no recourse. If he used his trump to ruff, declarer would follow with his low diamond and later discard dummy's club loser on the queen of diamonds. If he did not ruff, the queen of diamonds would win and declarer would ruff his remaining diamond with the jack of trumps. Either way, the defenders would score just one trick and the slam would be home.

Remember this situation. It crops up in a number of disguises. The common theme is that if a defender ruffs, he wastes his trump "on air."